

# Sidebands

The Newsletter of the EAST GREENBUSH AMATEUR RADIO ASSOCIATION



**Field Day Special!**

www.egara.club

July 2018

President - Tom Scorsone, KC2FCP  
Secretary - Steve VanSickle, WB2HPR

Vice-President - Nick Field, KD2JCR  
Treasurer, Webmaster & Newsletter Editor - Bryan Jackson, W2RBJ

## The 24 Hours of Field Day

The first CQ wouldn't go out until Saturday afternoon at 2 pm EDT, but preparations began long before the official start of Field Day's 24 hours of operation.

Weeks ago, club officials started making plans that included everything from downloading computer logging software to choosing food and refreshments. Preparations continued during the club's June meeting with members volunteering for setup, operating shifts, and finally, tear down and cleanup.

By the time Field Day had ended on Sunday, June 24th, the EGARA team had made 589 contacts and racked up a total of 2,312 points -- including 1,090 bonus points.

"This year's Field Day was one of the best ever," said EGARA President Tom Scorsone. "We had new members on the air for the first time and a solid crew to help set up and clean up. I really appreciate the way everyone worked together to make it a success."

This year's point total was only slightly behind 2017, which came in at 2,488. The decrease was mostly due to new operators getting familiar with Field Day practices and two members who could not operate this year because of scheduling conflicts.

(continued on page two)



Visitors this year included six year old Will Grounds who watched as CW was sent by Steve VanSickle

## The Zenith Trans-Oceanic Radio in War and Peace

*This iconic portable receiver was known for durability and quality*

By Denny Sanders

They say necessity is the mother of invention. Nothing proves this more than the story of how the iconic Zenith Trans-Oceanic portable radio receiver came into existence.

Commander Eugene McDonald (1886–1958), the founder of Zenith, was a stickler for quality and insisted that any Zenith product represent cutting edge technology and design integrity.

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He was also an accomplished yachtsman. During his many ocean voyages, he constantly was frustrated with the inability of any portable commercial radio set to perform reliably at sea. About 1939 he ordered the Zenith R&D department to come up with a rock-solid, portable AM receiver sensitive enough to pull in signals from great distances. He insisted that the radio be a multi-band unit including shortwave, marine and aircraft bands. The Zenith crew came up with a gem: the Trans-Oceanic, a gorgeous piece of engineering housed in a robust and dramatic cabinet designed by the brilliant Zenith industrial designer Robert Davol Budlong. (continued on page 9)



A Vintage Zenith Trans-Oceanic

**Save the Date! Next Membership Meeting - September 12, 2018 at 7 pm**

## Field Day -- 2018

The Field Day weekend began Friday evening, June 22nd, at the Masonic Lodge with 15 members arriving to take equipment out of storage and to set up a wire dipole antenna for use on the lower HF bands. Many returned Saturday morning to finish preparations, including erection of the beam antenna used on the upper HF bands.

Saturday morning also brought good news... literally. The lead local story in the day's edition of the Troy Record was about EGARA's Field Day event, including two pictures taken last year of club members operating an HF rig and erecting the beam antenna.

After a lunch of submarine sandwiches, salad and a variety of snacks, all was readiness for Field Day's 24 hour run. All ready except for a faulty computer monitor at one of the logging stations. It decided to die just an hour before the official start time of 2 pm, but a quick trip to an office supply store for a replacement soon had everything back in order.

### At 2 pm, K9IQP Became the First Field Day Contact

With everything in place, EGARA was ready to run two HF stations with both operating fully on battery power using massive lead/acid batteries designed to backup cell phone sites during power failures. Using battery power also generated 200 bonus points for the club.

Finally, at 2 pm, the first CQ went out and contact was made: K9IQP in Illinois on 20 meters.

Initially, the majority of contacts came from the Eastern United States. But as evening approached and the gray line advanced, contacts began to come in from stations farther west, including Arizona, Iowa, Kansas, Oregon, Wyoming and California. Contacts from Pennsylvania led the pack, with a total of 66, followed by New York with 55 and Ohio with 43.

Operations continued overnight, but paused around midnight to welcome two special visitors -- ARRL's Eastern New York Section Manager John Fritze, K2QY, and his wife. It was one of a dozen stops he made as he toured the Field Day operations of clubs in his area.

Sunday morning also brought a special visitor when six year old Will Grounds stopped in for a look around with his father, Bryan. Will quickly took advantage of the offer to put on a set of headphones to listen as Steve Vansickle, WB2HPR,

## W2EGB's Contest Summary Report

**Total Contacts = 589**

**Total Points = 611**

| <u>Band</u>  | <u>CW</u> | <u>Phone</u> | <u>Dig</u> | <u>Total</u> | <u>%</u>   |
|--------------|-----------|--------------|------------|--------------|------------|
| 80           | 0         | 109          | 0          | 109          | 19         |
| 40           | 0         | 177          | 0          | 177          | 30         |
| 20           | 22        | 281          | 0          | 303          | 51         |
| --           | -----     | ---          | -----      | ---          | ----       |
| <b>Total</b> | <b>22</b> | <b>567</b>   | <b>0</b>   | <b>589</b>   | <b>100</b> |

pounded a traditional telegraph key to send CW, scoring an extra point for each contact. Will's dad said seeing the club's Field Day activities had renewed his interest in getting his Amateur license. He was invited to join EGARA, as well as offered any assistance he might need to prepare for his exam.

Also stopping by to lend a hand was former EGARA member Don Mayotte, KB2CDX, who also renewed his membership.

The club also worked hard to gain bonus points. In addition to gaining points for operating on emergency battery power, bonus points were claimed for the following:

|  |     |
|--|-----|
| • Media Publicity                              | 100 |
| • Public Location                              | 100 |
| • Public Information Table                     | 100 |
| • Formal message to ARRL SM/SEC                | 100 |
| • Site Visit by invited served agency official | 100 |
| • Youth participation                          | 40  |
| • FD report submitted via the Web              | 50  |
| • Educational activity                         | 100 |
| • Social media                                 | 100 |
| • Safety officer                               | 100 |

**Total Bonus Points 1,090**

By Sunday at 2 pm, EGARA operators had logged 589 contacts in all. The last contact was with KA2FIR from Northern New Jersey on 40 meters.

With Field Day officially over, clean up began and within an hour antennas were down, gear was stored away and the Masonic Lodge was swept and mopped. Happy, but tired, the EGARA team turned out the lights and then headed home to get some well deserved rest after long but memorable 24 hours on the air. **(Field Day Photo Gallery on next page)**



# Field Day Photo Gallery



Photos by: Steve VanSickle, W2HPR  
Dave Gillette, KC2RPU  
Bryan Jackson, W2RBJ





## A Great Day for a Run

### EGARA Team is there again for the “Run for Help”

(Photos by Michael Sisno and Bill Leue)

With sunny skies and mild temperatures, this year’s “Run for Help” on June 10th was a picture perfect day for the 5K event to raise money for victims of domestic violence served by Unity House. It was also a great day for the EGARA team that once again provided communications support along the race route, providing an excellent opportunity to practice their operating skills.

“I think our team did an excellent job -- maybe the best we’ve ever done,” said EGARA President Tom Scorsone, who operated the mobile repeater used for the race. “Everyone along the course route kept information flowing through our network and the race officials really appreciated our ability to keep them updated during the event.”

It was also announced that this may be the last year for the “Run for Help.” Race Director Martha Warner told participants that she and the other race officials had decided to retire after organizing the event for the past 20 years. “It’s just become too much for us to handle after all these years,” she said. “But we hope the ‘Run for Hope’ can continue with a new group of organizers.” This year’s race attracted some 120 runners and walkers. In addition, a group of children participated in a youth race that was held before the main event.

EGARA members who provided communications support for the race included: Ridge Macdonald, KB2HWL; Peggy Donnelly, KD2LMU; Bryan Jackson, W2RBJ; Tom Scorsone, KC2FCP; Paul Dahoda, KD2JMM; Bill Leue, K2WML; Steve Marsh, KC2USX; Deb Mariani, KC2ULU; David Jaeger, K2DEJ; and Michael Sisno, KD2YWR.



**Rich Messineo of Nassau won the run with a time of 18:32**

## *EGARA Hudson River Cruise Sets Sail August 18th*

The annual club cruise on the Hudson River has been scheduled for August 18th aboard the “Spirit of Albany” (weather permitting). The cruise will be captained by club member Dave Williams, N2VLQ, and is open to all club members and their families at no charge -- however there is a limit of 20 passengers aboard the boat. Members who wish to go aboard should email [W2RBJ@outlook.com](mailto:W2RBJ@outlook.com) by no later than Friday August 3rd with the total number in their party. Members should also plan to bring their own lunch and refreshments for the cruise, as well as items such as HT radios, binoculars and cameras. The cruise will leave promptly at 10 am from the Port of Albany and return at approximately 2 pm. An email will be sent if inclement weather forces cancellation.

## Is the Internet, Millennials or FT-8 killing Ham Radio?

By Dan Romanchik, KB6NU

Amateur radio bloggers love to write about the demise of amateur radio. To wit, we have:

- K0NR's Is the Internet destroying amateur radio? (<http://www.k0nr.com/wordpress/2017/11/Internet-destroying-amateur-radio/>)
- N0SSC's Millennials are killing ham radio (<http://n0ssc.com/posts/583-millennials-are-killing-ham-radio>)
- PE4BAS' Is FT-8 damaging amateur radio? (<https://pe4bas.blogspot.com/2018/04/is-ft8-damaging-hamradio.html>)
- NZ0T's Did Joe Taylor K1JT Destroy Amateur Radio? (<http://www.ei5di.com/jt.html>)

Of course, none of these posts are really saying that the Internet, millennials, or FT-8 has killed amateur radio. What they are saying is that all of these are changing amateur radio as we know it. Well, duh, the way we live our lives changes every day. Why should amateur radio be any different?

For example, Bob, K0NR, discusses how the operation of remote stations is changing the game of DX. Can you really claim that you worked a DX station if you rented time on a super station? I've written about that topic, too (<https://www.kb6nu.com/dx-advisory-committee-wants-to-put-the-screws-to-remote-operation/>).

There has also been much written about how FT8 is changing the amateur radio game. One blog post (<https://ve7sl.blogspot.com/2017/10/160m-ft8-end-of-era.html>), talking about the effect of FT8 on 160m operation, even goes so far to say that this is the "end of an era." On DX World, the results of the poll, "FT8 – Damaging to Amateur Radio?" (<https://dx-world.net/yes-or-no-a-poll-on-ft8/>) show more than half of the respondents think that FT8 is damaging amateur radio.

I specifically used the word "game" in the previous two paragraphs because that's exactly what's changing. The physics of amateur radio certainly isn't changing. Our transmitters are still generating electromagnetic waves like they have been for decades, and on the HF bands, anyway, those radio waves are bouncing off the ionosphere just as they have been for more than the past 100 years.

What's changing is the human component. By that I mean what's changing is how we think people should participate in the hobby. The hams that are complaining that the Internet or millennials or FT8 is killing amateur radio are really just complaining that people aren't participating in amateur radio the way they want them to participate.

Here's where we talk about millennials. In his blog post, Sterling, N0SSC, suggests that setting up remote stations is one way to engage young people. He writes, "I believe that remote operating, and other Internet-assisted means of ham radio operation, are critical to youth engagement."

He's also big on an idea he calls "ham radio hackathons." He writes,

"A hackathon isn't a coding competition. It's explained well in this Medium article (<https://medium.com/hackathons-anonymous/wtf-is-a-hackathon-92668579601>). It goes even further than that, not limited to coders and engineers, but open to thinkers, doers, philosophers, system engineers, math people, teachers, students, artists, stakeholders... anyone with an interest in solving a problem with technology."

I support both of these ideas, but I think that millennials (and, to be fair, it isn't just millennials we're talking about here, but any newcomers to the hobby) need to step up and get these things going. I don't think it's my job to try to get kids interested in amateur radio. I don't even know if that's really possible. What I can do, however, is be there to encourage and support kids (and anyone else that expresses a sincere interest in amateur radio).

For example, I'm not sure how fruitful it would be to set up my station to be remotely operable and then saying to some kids, "Hey, come and operate my station." What I think would be more fruitful is to say to a kid, "Hey, come help me set up my remote control station, so that we both can use it." Then, it turns into a learning situation, and we both gain from the exercise.

The same kind of thing has to happen with ham radio hackathons. The motivation has to come from the ground up, not the top down. I do hope that this idea gets off the ground, though, and I'm standing by, ready to support this effort however I can.

I think that millennials (I'm really getting tired of that term, by the way) need to grab the bull by the horns and take amateur radio in the direction they want it to go. Feel free to kill amateur radio as we know it. Make it better!

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When he's not trying to figure out how to save amateur radio, Dan builds stuff and blogs about amateur radio at KB6NU.Com.

## EGARA June Meeting Minutes

- The June meeting of the EGARA was called to order at 7:18 PM by President Tom Scorsone, KC2FCP. The Treasurer's report was presented by Treasurer Bryan Jackson, W2RBJ and approved by the membership.
- Field Day planning was discussed – we will run 2 Alpha and operate CW/SSB/and digital modes. Peggy Donnelly and Bryan Jackson have contacted local government officials to invite them to observe the club's setup and operation. The club will provide food and beverages at no cost to the members and guests. Unlicensed guests and aspiring hams will be encouraged to make contacts. All operators will enjoy all amateur privileges providing an Extra class licensee is present. Antenna setup and equipment staging will be done on Friday at 6 PM.
- Thanks were extended to those EGARA members who participated in the Run for Hope. Next years race is in question at this time due to the retirement of race organizers.
- The annual EGARA Cruise on the Hudson is scheduled for August 18th. Members can bring their own lunch and beverages. Also binoculars, camera, and sunscreen are also suggested. The trip is limited to 20.
- The East Greenbush Fire Department pavilion is reserved for next May 11th for the annual EGARA hamfest. We are considering an HF Transceiver as the grand prize.
- The annual All-Club picnic will be held on August 11th at the Verdoy Fire Department pavilion. All are welcome. Contact Tony Pazzola for further details at w2bej@juno.com;
- Bill Leue mentioned the availability of on-line AREA training courses. Details may be found on the ARES website. There are 3 levels of training available at no charge. The possibility of an inter-club council was also discussed.
- Steve VanSickle demonstrated a tool box that may be of use to those wishing to set up a "go" kit.
- Steve Marsh reported conflicts with CHIRP software and some hand-held radios, making some functions inoperable. He reported that RT System software works fine.
- Refreshments were served. The meeting was adjourned at 8:16 PM.

--de Steve VanSickle WB2HPR / Secretary

## Annual All Club Picnic Set for August 11th

Amateur Radio operators from the greater Capital District will gather again on August 11th for a day of fun and friendship during the annual "All Club Picnic." This year's picnic will be held at the Verdoy Volunteer Fire Department at 547 Old Niskayuna Road in Latham and will run from noon until 4 pm.

"This is a great opportunity to meet fellow hams from around the region and learn about the activities of other clubs in the area," said Tony Pazzola, W2BEJ, one of the picnic organizers. "It's also an opportunity for our club to recruit new members, as many hams enjoy belonging to more than one club."

The picnic also features tables for hams who have equipment they want to sell or swap.

The event is open to members of all area Amateur Radio clubs and their families. The admission price is \$5 per person and includes food and beverages. Each person attending will also receive a door prize. While food is provided, attendees are encouraged to bring a desert to share with their fellow hams.



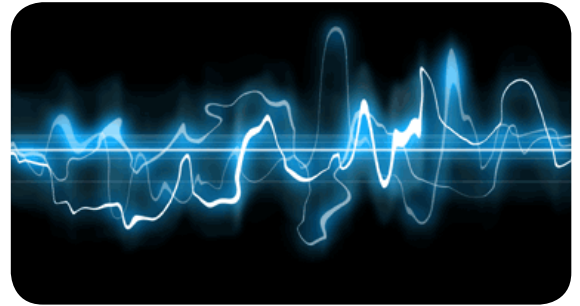


## On the Beam

### News & Notes

#### FCC Denies Petition Aimed at Preventing Interference from Digital Repeaters to Analog Repeaters

The FCC has turned away a Petition for Rulemaking from a Michigan radio amateur that asked the Commission to amend Section 97.205 of the Amateur Service rules to ensure that repeaters using digital communication protocols do not interfere with analog repeaters. Charles P. Adkins, K8CPA, of Lincoln Park, had specifically requested that discrete analog and digital repeaters be separated either by distance or frequency and that digital repeaters be limited to 10 W output, the FCC recounted in its June 1 denial letter, released over the signature of Scot Stone, the deputy chief of the Wireless Telecommunications Bureau's Mobility Division. According to the letter, Adkins had characterized digital repeaters as "a major annoyance" to analog repeater operators.



"In 2008, we rejected a suggestion to amend Section 97.205(b) to designate separate spectrum for digital repeaters in order to segregate digital and analog communications," the FCC said in its letter to Adkins. "We noted that when the Commission has previously addressed the issue of interference between amateur stations engaging in different operating activities, it has declined to revise the rules to limit a frequency segment to one emission type in order to prevent interference to the operating activities of other Amateur Radio Service licensees."

The FCC told Adkins that current Part 97 rules already address the subject of interference between amateur stations, prohibiting, among other things, willful or malicious interference to any radio communication or signal, and spelling out how interference disputes between repeaters should be handled.

"You have not demonstrated any changed circumstances or other reason that would warrant revisiting this decision," the FCC concluded. "Consequently, we dismiss your petition."

The FCC did not assign a rulemaking petition (RM) number to Adkins' petition nor invite public comments

#### All Club Council Proposed

During the June EGARA membership meeting, Andy Sullivan, KC2WWJ, suggested that Amateur Radio clubs in the greater Capital District consider forming a "council" of club officials that would meet periodically throughout the year to share information in an effort to strengthen their relationships and solve common issues. The idea was quickly embraced by EGARA members.

"I think such a council could do much to improve coordination, interaction and communications about Amateur Radio activities in the region," said Sullivan. Tony Pazzola, W2BEJ, said he would propose the idea to the officers of area clubs during the upcoming "All Club Picnic" in August.

"I think it would be great if club leaders could meet on a regular basis -- maybe quarterly -- to discuss the challenges they are facing and to find ways to solve them," Pazzola said. "It would also allow area clubs to explore the creation of joint activities that would enhance the involvement of their members. Stay tuned!"

# The History of Ham Radio: Humor, Poetry, and Rotten Rants

Chris Codella, W2PA, author, John Pelham, W1JA, editor, Phil Johnson, W2SQ, editor

(Editor's note: By special arrangement with the authors, Sidebands is pleased to present this multi-part series on the history of ham radio. Subsequent chapters will be published in future monthly editions of the newsletter)

Humor played a prominent role in QST from its first issue, born of the evident joy hams derived in pursuing their passion for radio.

The first curious attempt, in the first issue, two pages from the back cover, was not an article at all but a reprinted letter. It had been sent in by a Japanese radio student, identified only as Kathis Kathan, of Hynacus, who attempted to ask a technical question in painstaking, but painfully broken English—the main source of humor and confusion.

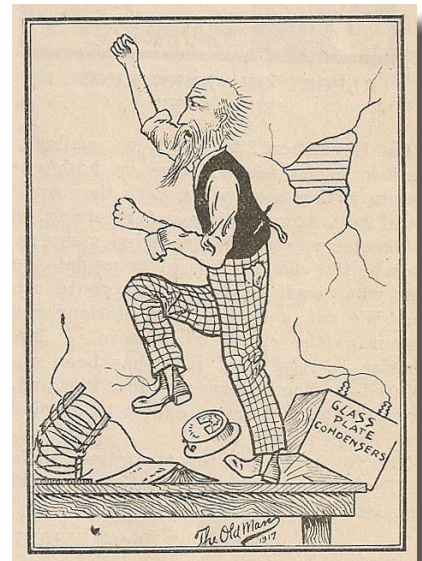
Despite this, the student seemed to be posing a fairly deep question: In a condenser, the dielectric is the heart of the device and is the material in which charge is stored, he wrote, and seemed to cite his interpretation of English technical papers to back this up. But, he then asked, how could this be true for air dielectric condensers, since he could blow the air away and still have charge left? It was quite a reasonable question coming from a beginning student trying to get a foundational understanding of a device that was fundamental to radio. Exactly where charge is stored was his main source of confusion. He closed his letter with, "Explanation me Honorable Radio Secretary for which accept my assurances most distinguished consideration," referring to Tuska.

The letter and its appearance in QST are difficult to figure out—especially the name Kathis Kathan, which is distinctly not Japanese sounding, and the location which does not seem to exist today—except that young Tuska probably found the letter hilarious. The secretary of the League offered a \$5 reward to readers for the best answer as judged by its "funny side or technical value"—in that order. The responses appeared in February QST and the promised award was announced. Some respondents attempted to be humorous; one seriously tried to answer the question but interpreted the original letter differently from how I did.

The Old Man, the pseudonymous author of a long running humor series, made his first appearance in the second issue of QST writing about "Running Tests between Amateur Stations"—a non-humor piece. He described a scenario in which two hams set up a scheduled contact, trying to work each other over some long distance despite the party line nature of radio at that point, only to have their attempt foiled by a combination of household distractions and boys making long transmissions using spark coils. There was a need, he asserted, for scheduled, widely agreed-to times for relay testing when other "unimportant amateur work" would keep quiet. He suggested a 30-minute window each night between, say, 8:45 and 9:15. "Little boys" with spark coils and a few dry cells were the usual source of casual interference, he wrote. Times between 7:30 and 10:00 p.m. were particularly problematic. Therefore, another way to avoid interference would be to wait until later in the evening, when "the little boys have been tucked away for the night." Later he allowed that, of course, the boys should be encouraged to "practice radio signaling" but that surely it should not be so difficult to keep quiet for a few minutes each night.

The little boy with the squeak box thus became a frequent target of complaints about QRM (interference). But they were not all little boys, and an alternative view began to assert itself. QST began receiving mail complaining about the frequent disparagement of the little boys with squeak boxes. Not only were these individuals frequently mature adults, but spark coils were routinely used for long distance work and to participate in links in the relays. The devices were also more efficient, some argued, as measured in distance per watt, than the transformer stations. (This sounds like the QRP/QRO argument today.)

Nearly a year after The Old Man's piece was published, the editor (likely also Maxim) wrote in response, "For our share in this thoughtless aspersion of the spark coil, we apologize in public and in print."



"The Old Man"  
Illustration from January 1917  
issue of QST

(continued on page 9)



## History of Ham Radio...

(continued from page 8)

Now about the “little boy” part—QST may have gotten the age wrong. But the abusers, whatever their age, did exist and were causing “untold misery” to other operators. Nevertheless, he wrote, “To the little boy ... who is well behaved after nine p. m., and the spark coil who is always well behaved if the vibrator is kept clean, we extend the glad hand of fellowship. All of us were once little boys ourselves, many of us are little boys yet, and practically all of us had our whack at the spark coil before we got there, in radio.”

Radio was not just for the male of the species, either. Women and girls interested in wireless were welcomed in a fashion, but treated as rare curiosities. In the first reference to one in QST, R. M. McLain of Huntsville, AL, wrote a letter reporting that while traveling in the hills of northern Alabama he came across a young lady, about age 17 he estimated, working on an aerial. She was definitely a radio enthusiast—“I am crazy about it,” she said—and was constantly repairing this particular aerial every time the wind would blow it down. McLain also noticed various farm animals and a spinning-wheel apparently still in use, and commented how this was certainly an unusual girl, able to “operate anything from an old spinning wheel to a modern wireless telegraph.”

The humor tradition resumed in May with the inaugural installment of the long running series of rants by The Old Man (TOM) that would come to be known as the “Rotten” series, since their titles all included that word. With time, people generally accepted as fact that the humorous kvetch was HPM himself, but there was no conclusive proof or admission published until after his death, years later. This makes the back-and-forth between TOM and the QST editorial page about the “little boys with squeak boxes” all the more amusing—both were unsigned, and both had probably been written by Maxim.

## The Zenith Trans-Oceanic...

The first Trans-Oceanic went on sale in January 1942, just as America was entering World War II. But shortly after its introduction, war restrictions on the manufacture of civilian goods saw production shift to military radios so only about 35,000 of these first units were made.

You can identify the pre-Pearl Harbor version because a sailboat was etched on the grill cloth. It was later replaced with a bomber after the Japanese attack on Pearl Harbor.

In those wartime days, many Americans were anxious to hear reports via shortwave from Europe, especially from the BBC, so it was common to see shortwave bands on many commercial radios of the era. (continued next column)

## Zenith... In War & Peace

An ad for the Zenith Trans-Oceanic.

It originally sold for \$75 in 1942.

The first 7G605 model used six tubes: 117ZG6, 3Q5, 1LN5, 1LA6, 1LN5, and 1LD5. Power was supplied by a pair of “A” and “B” dry cell batteries.

But nothing on the market pulled them in with the clarity and sensitivity of the Trans-Oceanic.

The radio became a godsend to soldiers and sailors stationed in remote areas or at sea. Not only was it sensitive enough to pull in far-off stations (with an extra-wide band spread to isolate co-channel interference) but the radio was bulletproof -- literally. Members of the Armed Forces wrote glowing wartime reports back to Zenith about how their Trans-Oceanic was shot at, caught in an explosion, damaged in a fire, fell overboard or was involved in any number of calamities and kept right on playing.

On the insistence of Commander McDonald, the unit was resistant to humidity, with wax coatings on many critical components. This not only made the Trans-Oceanic a robust unit for sea voyages but was an added advantage in the humid conditions of tropical military outposts.

Due in part to the wartime reputation of the Trans-Oceanic, the scarcity of the first units and the pent-up desire for consumer goods after years of rationing, the post-war Trans-Oceanics became the world's top-selling, high end portable radio receiver for many years. With Americans becoming increasingly mobile and affluent in the 1950s, the Trans-Oceanic was the one unit that could be relied upon to pull in AM stations clearly at distant vacation locations and deep woods camping trips. And it remained a favorite of the military right up until the final, true Trans-Oceanic was made in 1962 -- the last tube portable ever manufactured.

Although the Trans-Oceanic name lived on for several years in more modern and compact Zenith transistorized units, nothing has the appeal and romance of those big first-generation Zenith Trans-Oceanics, with their superb engineering, brilliant industrial design, tonal clarity, matchless sensitivity and historical importance.

## July: This Month in Radio History



July 1, 1911: Radio Division of Department of Commerce created

July 1, 1920: GE and AT&T sign cross-license agreement

July 1, 1923: WMAF and WEAf create first network

July 1, 1934: Federal Communications Commission replaces Federal Radio Commission

July 1, 1948: President Harry S. Truman nominated Frieda Hennock to be a commissioner of the FCC, a position never held before by a woman; she was confirmed by the Senate on July 6.

July 1, 2002: Sirius Satellite Radio begins service

July 4, 1879 Bell Telephone Company founded; July 4, 1970: Casey Kasem first hosts American Top 409

July 9, 1992: First AM HD Radio transmission (on 1660 from Xetron, Cincinnati)

July 10, 1856: Nicola Tesla born

July 10, 1962: Telstar 1 launched

July 12, 2000: USA Digital Radio and Lucent Digital Radio merge to form iBiquity Digital

July 14, 1995: Fraunhofer picks ".MP3" to be file extension of MPEG Layer III audio files

July 16, 1961: Leonard Kleinrock publishes concept of packet switching.

July 17, 1934: FCC adopts Order No. 1

July 20, 1897: The Wireless Telegraph and Signal Company is founded in England

July 20, 1937: Marconi dies

July 24, 1939: The first experimental FM stations go on the air

July 27, 1940: Billboard publishes first recorded music sales chart

July 31, 2001: ABC ends DAT/SEDAT satellite transmission



# Summer Regional Hamfest Schedule

**July 1, 2018**

**Event: Metro 70 Hamfest**

**Location: White Plains, NY**

**Type: ARRL Hamfest**

**Sponsor: Metro 70 Communications & KOC**

**Website: <http://metro70.org>**

**August 4, 2018**

**Event: Ithaca Hamfest**

**Location: Trumansburg, NY**

**Type: ARRL Hamfest**

**Sponsor: Tompkins Co. Amateur Radio Assn**

**Website: <http://tcara-ny.org>**

**July 7, 2018**

**Event: RAGS 2018 Hamfest**

**Location: Syracuse, NY**

**Type: ARRL Hamfest**

**Sponsor: Radio Amateurs of Greater  
Syracuse**

**Website: <http://ragsclub.org>**

**August 18, 2018**

**Event: Annual Keuka Lake ARA Hamfest**

**Location: Avoca, NY**

**Type: ARRL Hamfest**

**Sponsor: Keuka Lake Amateur Radio  
Association**

**Website: <http://klara.us>**

**July 15, 2018**

**Event: Sussex Hamfest**

**Location: Augusta, NJ**

**Type: ARRL Hamfest**

**Sponsor: Sussex County Amateur Radio Club**

**Website: <http://scarcnj.org>**

**August 19, 2018**

**Event: NoBARC Hamfest**

**Location: Adams, MA**

**Type: ARRL Hamfest**

**Sponsor: N. Berkshire Amateur Radio Club**

**Website: <http://www.nobarc.org>**

**July 21, 2018**

**Event: Batavia Hamfest**

**Location: Alexander, NY**

**Type: ARRL Hamfest**

**Sponsor: Lancaster Amateur Radio Club**

**Website: <http://w2so.org>**

**August 26, 2018**

**Chautauqua AR Service Hamfest**

**Location: Lakewood, NY**

**Type: ARRL Hamfest**

**Sponsor: Chautauqua Amateur Radio Service**

**Website: <http://www.chautauqua-ars.org>**

**July 22, 2018**

**Event: RADIOCOM 2018**

**Location: Deerfield, NY**

**Type: ARRL Hamfest**

**Sponsor: Utica Amateur Radio Club**

**Website: <http://www.uticaarc.com>**

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**Visit:**

**[http://www.arrl.org/hamfests-and-  
conventions-calendar](http://www.arrl.org/hamfests-and-conventions-calendar)**

# CALENDAR

**August 11, 2018** - All Club Picnic - Noon - Verdoz Fire Department, 547 Old Niskayuna Road, Latham.

**August 18, 2018** - Annual EGARA Hudson River Cruise - 10 am - Port of Albany.

**September 12, 2018** - EGARA membership meeting, 7 pm, Masonic Temple.

## Pro Tip: Heat shrink sleeving

Heat shrink sleeving is a particularly useful form of insulating sleeving. It can be bought in long lengths and in a variety of diameters. Typically, when used, the required length is cut from the main length, and this is slipped over the area that requires protection. In general the smallest diameter that can be fitted over the area to be protected should be used.

Once in place a heat gun can be used to heat the sleeving so that it shrinks over the joint. As the heat shrink sleeving will shrink over the joint and follow its contours, it will usually stay firmly in place.

Normally a special heat gun is used to shrink the sleeving, although care must be taken not to damage other areas by getting them too hot. For those without heat guns, the heat rising from a soldering iron can be used, although care should be taken not to touch the sleeving with the iron, otherwise it will burn slightly and become discolored.

Typically the heat shrink sleeving will shrink at temperatures just over 100C. Some types are specified for 105C, others for 135C, and specialised high temperature types may even be as high as 175C, although these types of heat shrink sleeves are unlikely to be used for general electronics applications.

### The East Greenbush Amateur Radio Association

Organized in 1998, by Bert Bruins, N2FPJ, (SK) and Chris Linck, N2NEH, the East Greenbush Amateur Radio Association, an ARRL affiliate, is committed to providing emergency services, educational programs, and operating resources to amateur radio operators and residents of the Capital Region of New York State. The club station is W2EGB. The club also has several VHF and UHF repeaters open to club members and the public.



### For Sale

- Decibel Products, DB-4072, UHF Duplexer, with mounting brackets, A really low price. \$145.00
- Kenwood TKR-720 VHF Repeater, 50 Watts, \$349.00
- 50 W intermittent dummy load with SO-239 connection. \$7.00
- CSI 12 frequency Selector Switch, CTCSS Generator, BNC Connector \$25.00
- UHF RX Preamp 3 output 1 input for multiple receivers \$25.00
- Ritron Patriot UHF 30 Watt GMRS Repeater, w/ duplexers, Programed and tuned to 462.625Mhz Rpt, 25 watts, 186.2 Hz, \$275.00 Good Clean. (Won't go to HAM)

*For items above contact: John Maddalla, WB2HZT  
at radiowizzzz@aol.com*

- Eldico R-104 RECEIVER, 80-10M, \$ 300.00
- Hammarlund HQ-170 RECEIVER, 160 through 6 Meter receiver. Does not cover the newer WARC bands of 60, 30, 17, and 12 Meters. \$ 225.00

*For items above contact: Tom Scorsone by email at  
KC2FCP@nycap.rr.com*

- **Swan 700 cx** -- Immaculate condition, collector quality. Recently overhauled. Includes Shure 444 desk microphone, VX-1 VOX in factory box, very rare Model 510X external 10 pos. crystal oscillator, Model 117XC speaker/PS and original manual. Asking \$700.
- **Swan 250-C / TV-2C** -- Complete 6 and 2 meter station, beautiful condition & in factory box- checked for proper operation. With Model 117XC speaker/PS, (2) Model NS-1 Noise Blankers, with Swan Model TV-2C Transverter & Shure Model 404-C microphone and Swan 210 external VFO. \$750.

*For more info contact Steve VanSickle by email at:  
svansick@nycap.rr.com*

**Looking to Buy, Sell or Swap?**  
**Send your info to W2RBJ@outlook.com**