

Sidebands



The Newsletter of the EAST GREENBUSH AMATEUR RADIO ASSOCIATION



www.egara.club

December 2018

President - Tom Scorsone, KC2FCP
Secretary - Steve VanSickle, WB2HPR
Board Members: David Jaegar, Jr., K2DEJ

Vice-President - Nick Field, KD2JCR
Treasurer, Webmaster & Newsletter Editor - Bryan Jackson, W2RBJ
- Russ Greenman, WB2LCX - Dave Gillette, KC2RPU

Ria Jairam Wins ARRL Hudson Division Chief Election

In a tight election decided by 53 votes, Ria Jairam, N2RJ, has been elected ARRL's Hudson Division Manager, narrowly beating incumbent Mike Lisenco N2YBB. Vice Director Bill Hudzik, W2UDT, was unopposed for re-election. The final vote count was 1292 to 1239. She will take over the position on January 1st.

"I would like to thank Mike, N2YBB for his past 6 years of service and I wish him well in his future endeavors," Jairam said. "I would also like to thank everyone who supported this important campaign. We made history and you were a vital part of it."

Jairam ran an aggressive campaign, making dozens of visits to clubs and Amateur Radio events throughout the region. She also was active on social media platforms, such as the Upstate New York Amateur Radio Group on Facebook.

"I want our league to grow and be vibrant, and stay up to date with the latest and greatest. True to the amateur's code: 'with knowledge abreast of science, a well built and efficient station, and operation beyond reproach.' I want ARRL to hold true to that," she said. She can be contacted at: Ria@N2RJ.com



Ria Jairam, N2RJ, is ARRL's new Hudson Division Manager.

Tis the Season!

Gifts of Donated Gear Advance Club Mission to Get New Hams on the Air

When club member Joe Ostering, N2CJF, decided to move from his long-time home in New Jersey, he faced a dilemma -- what to do with all of the amateur gear he had collected over many decades? Time was of the essence, so trying to sell it all before his closing date wasn't an option. Instead, he decided to let his old gear help some new hams, donating his used equipment to EGARA so it could be refurbished and sold to raise money for club activities.

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"Donations of used equipment gives us the resources to fund various club projects. This includes purchasing new radios that we raffle off for free to newly licensed hams that pass their exams at our VE sessions," said EGARA President Tom Scoreone, KC2FCP. "It goes a long way toward our mission to advance Amateur Radio and get new hams on the air after they get their ticket."

Another club member who has done much to support the program is Dave Smith, WA2WAP. For Dave, his donations are especially meaningful, as much of the equipment he provided was owned by his late son, Sean, who passed away in December 2017. "I'm happy to know that my son's gear has allowed others to get involved in a hobby he enjoyed so much."

December EGARA Christmas Holiday Party - 6:30 pm - December 14th @ Hilltop Cafe
Reservations Due By December 3rd!

2018: A Busy & Rewarding Year for EGARA Members

As 2018 draws to a close, it's clear that it was a busy year for the club and its members. Activities included ten membership meetings with presentations on a wide variety of Amateur Radio topics, the annual Hamfest and Field Day events, FCC exams sessions, and communications support for several community events. In addition, the club expanded its member offerings -- ranging from a new rewards program to testing member's gear for proper operation.

"The officers and board have worked hard to make sure club members get back far more than the cost of their dues," said President Tom Scorson, KC2FCP. "And we constantly look for ways to expand and improve the many activities and events the club offers. Now, we're looking for another great year in 2019!"

Among the benefits the club's members enjoyed were access to the club's website for information and updates, several repeaters, and monthly editions of the club's newsletter, Sidebands. Issues contained articles on how to resolve operating problems, news and updates on Amateur Radio, club meeting minutes, equipment reviews, electronic tips and free classified ads. Other club activities included a free fall cruise on the Hudson River, and the annual Field Day in June, with the club providing meals and snacks for operators during the 24 hour event. Of course, the club also provided free pizza and refreshments during its regular meetings. And, once again this year, the club's holiday party includes the giveaway of a Tri-Band HT radio by Santa to one lucky club member.

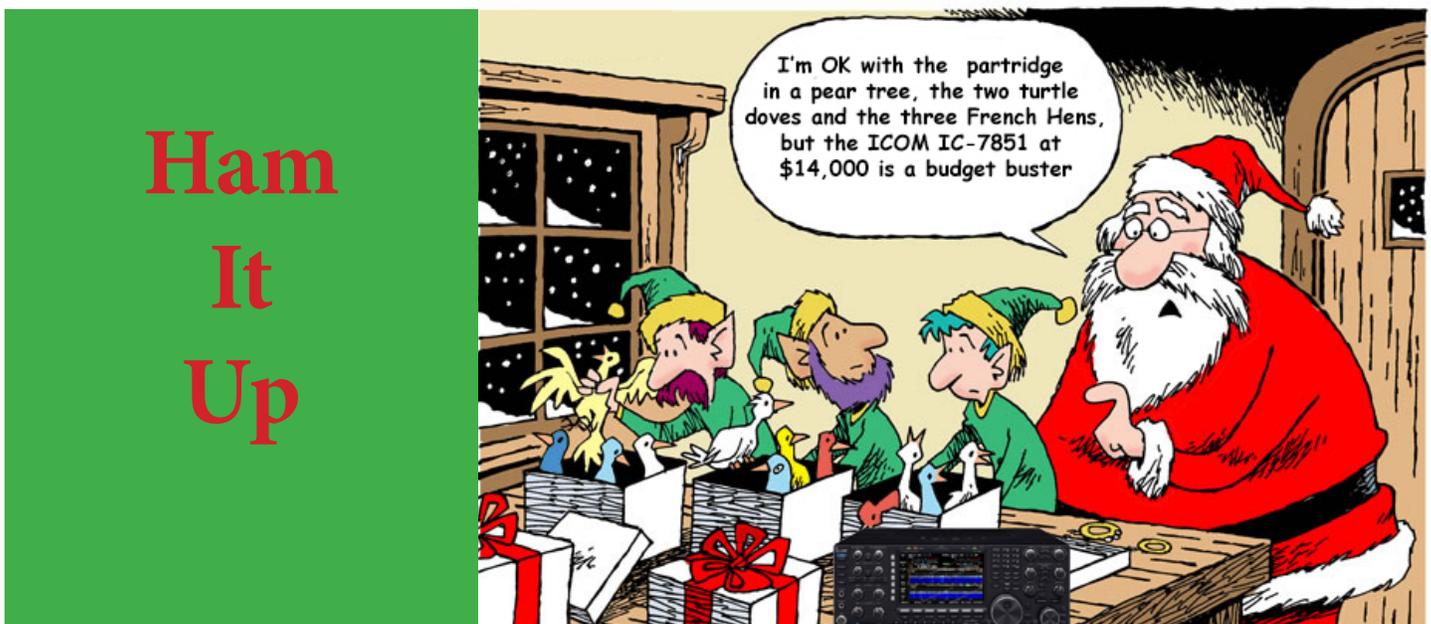


Steve VanSickle, WB2HPR, demonstrates proper antenna tuning during a club meeting

"One of the other great benefits of being a club member is the chance to learn and participate in emergency and network communication operations during the community events we serve," said Vice President Nick Field, KD2JCR. "These are hands-on opportunities that only a club membership can really offer."

EGARA members also have access to several "Elmers" to help them with their problems and questions. "There's nothing more gratifying than helping a fellow ham who's trying to overcome a problem or issue," said Secretary Steve VanSickle, WB2HPR. "I'm fortunate to have spent an entire career in electronics and two-way communications -- and passing along what I've learned is a great way to pay back those who helped me when I was starting out." This year, Steve ran an equipment workshop that allowed members to test their HT radios for proper operation.

For 2019, EGARA will once again hold dues at \$15 for individuals and \$25 for family memberships. Members who accrued ten or more reward points during the year can apply \$10 toward the cost of their dues or choose a \$10 gift card instead.



Training for Amateur Radio Emergency Communications

By Bill Leue, K2WML

For the November EGARA meeting, I gave a presentation on the new ARRL ARES training and ARES Connect programs. Here's a summary of the main points and a list of helpful Web links that will take you further along this path.

The Training: The ARRL wants to professionalize radio amateurs who participate in ARES, and to better align their work in communications with the U.S. Federal government training and procedures for emergency management: NIMS, the National Incident Management System, and IMS, the Incident Management System.

To this end, ARRL has defined three levels of training for ARES radio operators: Level One, for amateurs who are just starting with ARES; Level Two, for amateurs who meet the standard training levels; and Level Three, for amateurs who have successfully completed advanced training and can qualify for ARRL leadership positions in emergency handling.

Although there are as yet no official ARRL training documents for these levels, the Eastern New York Section of ARRL has written three Task Books (plus a fourth summary book) that can guide you in meeting the new training standards. Each Task Book (Introductory, Intermediate, and Advanced) contains the required Educational, Participatory, and Technical tasks that must be completed to receive certification for that level.

The Educational requirements at the early levels are mainly free on-line FEMA training courses in the Incident Management System. (IMS). At higher levels, there is required ARRL and Skywarn training, some of which is classroom instruction. At the bottom of this short document there are a set of Web links showing you where to go to get copies of these task books.

ARRL ARES Connect: ARES Connect is a new Web-based service that ARRL has just rolled out. It serves a number of purposes:

1. Allows amateurs who participate in ARES to see a calendar of local and regional ARES-related events such as meetings, networks, and public service events. Amateurs can sign up for these events and get credit points after attending.
2. Allows ARRL ARES administrators at all levels to see the ARES participants at the local, regional, and national level; to view and update their credentials; and to assess their participation level and readiness for dispatch to work on emergencies.
3. Will eventually include much more as it gets revised and updated.

If you are interested in ARES emergency communication and training, you are welcome to join ARES Connect. Links in the next section will show you how to get started.

The Links: The most important link for getting started is the ARRL Eastern New York Section ARES page at <http://eny.arrl.org/ARES>. This web page is where you can download copies of the ARES training Task Books in PDF. This is also where you need to sign up for ARES Connect, using the top menu item.

There are lots of other useful links and information on this page. Once you have signed up for ARES Connect, you can quickly go there at <http://arrl.volunteerhub.com>.

For on-line FEMA training courses in ICS and other topics, the simplest thing is just to Google for the course title you need. For instance, if you Google for "ICS-100," your first hit will be the one you want:

For Skywarn training, go to the Albany National Weather Service web site at <https://www.weather.gov/aly/>.

So, if you are interested in using your amateur radio license in emergency services, please take some time to study the material available at these web sites.

Have fun!



Bill Leue, K2WML

New CEO Wants ARRL to Serve All Ages and Amateur Radio Interests

Newly elected ARRL CEO Howard Michel, WB2ITX, is still on the uphill side of the learning curve as he acquaints himself with ARRL Headquarters and the nearly 90 staffers who work there. The New Jersey native arrived at HQ on October 15 and has spent much of his time since meeting with department managers and others to get his bearings, with an eye toward building consensus and aligning people, programs, and services in the same direction.

“I’m still trying to understand what is working and where the challenges are,” Michel said. “Once I understand where the challenges are, I need to understand why. Before I make any changes in what we’re doing, I need to make sure the change is a step in the right direction and for the right reasons, and not kind of a random process.”

Michel would like to see ARRL focus on the future of Amateur Radio and not become the redoubt of a particular generation of radio amateur or interest group. He said, “Ham radio shouldn’t abandon the old guardians of the hobby, but at the same time, it needs to have new things that appeal to people who have different interests and different passions.”

Ham radio appears currently entrenched with opposition often expressed to FT8 and other digital modes and protocols that bend Amateur Radio traditions and conventions, Michel observed. However, as he sees it, technology for the whole of Amateur Radio has been changing, and detractors to advances have always been present. He’d like ARRL to encourage more technological diversity without creating controversy.

“My kick is seeing the technology advance,” the former IEEE president and CEO said. “I want to see hams embrace the new technology — as long as we do that in a way that those who don’t adopt the new technology won’t feel abandoned.” In his view, the real reason behind the continued enthusiasm for CW “is not the technology; it’s the legacy.”

At the same time, resources should reflect usage and interest, with respect to the spectrum and with respect to how many pages QST devotes to a particular interest area. “Everything should reflect the growth and change, without abandoning the legacy interests.” Acknowledging the incessant push to get more young people into Amateur Radio, Michel wants to explore ways “to morph some of the League’s processes and services and products into something that would appeal to the newer generation of hams.”

“Young people in general don’t join organizations, but they join causes,” he said. “With that kind of attitude, how do we develop the same kind of ability for people interested in Amateur Radio to self-organize around causes? And if we can design the infrastructure around that, maybe they’ll see value in ARRL and become a new type of member — not one who necessarily comes to ham club meetings once a month but finds the League can facilitate what they want to do.”

Michel said he’s always enjoyed tinkering with ham gear, building it, modifying it, and repairing it, and then making it do something new or different. He concedes that while he has not had an opportunity to do much hamming as he’s moved around with the military and for academic and business pursuits, he’d like to become more active, and he is presently exploring his options as an apartment dweller. As for FT8, he’d like to try it, if for no other reason than the novelty.

Michel said he definitely wants to encourage partnerships with other organizations with which ARRL might share some common ground, including IEEE. “We can’t do everything ourselves. We have to find partnerships,” he said. Some IEEE operating units would be applicable to Amateur Radio, and he’s already heard from two unit heads that are both hams.

Michel also feels that radio amateurs need to extend their gaze beyond the everyday nuts and bolts of Amateur Radio operating. “What we need to do is protect the spectrum from competition, develop interest in the various facets of Amateur Radio, and not try to pick fights ‘in house,’” he said. “Spectrum is the gold of the 21st century.”



New ARRL CEO Howard Michel, WB2ITX, at W1AW.
[Michelle Patnode, W3MVP, photo]

Did the FCC just make Baofengs illegal? Short answer: NO!

By Dan KB6NU 44 Comments

Is the UV-5R now illegal?

Recently, the FCC published Enforcement Advisory, No. 2018-03. It begins:

The Enforcement Bureau (Bureau) of the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) has observed that a growing number of conventional retailers and websites advertise and sell low-cost, two-way VHF/UHF radios that do not comply with the FCC's rules. Such devices are used primarily for short-distance, two-way voice communications and are frequently imported into the United States. These radios must be authorized by the FCC prior to being imported, advertised, sold, or operated in the United States.

Many of these radios violate one or more FCC technical requirements. For example, some can be modified to transmit on public safety and other land mobile channels for which they are not authorized, while others are capable of prohibited wideband operations. Such radios are illegal, and many have the potential to negatively affect public safety, aviation, and other operations by Federal, state, and local agencies, as well as private users. Because these devices must be, but have not been, authorized by the FCC, the devices may not be imported into the United States, retailers may not advertise or sell them, and no one may use them. Rather, these devices may only be imported, advertised, sold, or used only if the FCC first has approved them under its equipment authorization process (or unless the devices operate exclusively on frequencies reserved for amateur licensees or they are intended for use exclusively by the federal government). Moreover, with only very limited exceptions, after being authorized, the devices may not be modified. Anyone importing, advertising or selling such non-compliant devices should stop immediately, and anyone owning such devices should not use them. Violators may be subject to substantial monetary penalties.



This advisory seems aimed squarely at radios, such as the Baofeng UV-5R and other inexpensive Chinese radios, and a lot of hams are worried that: a) they won't be able to get cheap Chinese radios anymore, and b) the radios that they currently have are now illegal.

Fortunately, that's not the case. Having done some work for BTECH, a company that sells a lot of Baofeng radios, I asked them how they read this enforcement advisory. What they said is that what is illegal is selling radios without FCC certification or selling radios "outside of their designed use." The example they gave me would be selling a UV-5R for FRS use.

On Reddit, Noji, KN0JI, posted the text of an email exchange that he had with Scott Stone, Deputy Chief, Mobility Division of the FCC's Wireless Telecommunications Bureau. Noji asked,

Does Part 95.591 mean that all Baofeng UV-5R and UV-92 radios (which can transmit [on] FRS and GMRS frequencies) will become illegal to buy or sell in the U.S. after September 2019, even for amateur use?

To which, Stone replied:

No. Those devices do not have Part 95 certification, so they are not authorized for use in FRS or GMRS. i.e. they are not capable of operating under this subpart. They can be used by amateurs, but only on amateur frequencies.

About the Author: When he's not working on ham radio projects, Dan blogs about amateur radio, writes exam study guides (www.kb6nu.com/study-guides), and operates CW on the HF bands. Look for him on 30m, 40m, and 80m. You can email him at cwgeek@kb6nu.com.

EGARA November Meeting Minutes

- The November meeting of the EGARA was called to order at 7:15 PM by President Tom Scorsone, KC2FCP. The Treasurer's report was presented by Treasurer Bryan Jackson, W2RBJ and approved by the membership. Dues were accepted by Bryan Jackson, and can also be paid online using PayPal.
- Tickets were drawn and prizes awarded in the monthly raffle: Prizes included a Thanksgiving turkey, ammo can, tool bag, soldering iron, and five other tools.
- EGARA celebrates its 20th anniversary this year, and a special event station will be conducted, with certificates and QSL cards upon receipt of a SASE. The special event will be run in November. Bryan distributed log sheets and script with proposed frequencies. This event will be conducted on Dec. 1, from 2 to 10 PM.
- The Masons scheduled a spaghetti dinner on Nov. 17, 5 PM as a fund raiser to help cover the cost of a new roof at the Lodge. EGARA members were urged to support the event.
- The annual EGARA Christmas Banquet will be held at the Hilltop Café on December 12 at 6:30 pm. Dinner menus and sign sheets were circulated by Bryan and sent by email. The banquet will feature points awards and a free raffle for several prizes, including a UHF/VHF tri-band radio. Members need to respond by December 3rd in order that reservations may be made.
- Repeater relocation to the Helderbergs and installation is proceeding. Coax for the project has been obtained.
- Nick Field, KD2JCR gave a report on the Newcomers Roundtable which is held the 1st and 3rd Monday of the month at 8 pm on the K1FFK Mt. Greylock repeater, 146.910 with PL 162.20. . The first session lasted one hour and numerous stations participated.
- Bill Leue, K2WML gave a presentation about the recent changes to ARES training and the website ARES Connect. The training is divided in 3 modules, each employing a Task Book, and much of the training material is available at no cost on the web. The training is accessed through the NY State Training website. Bill showed the components of the 3 task books, and highlighted the mandatory components of each. Also, new message forms are now being used, as are new incident report forms. Bill also showed screen shots of the new ARES Connect web site. This web site provides a means for ARES members to view training schedules and access other ARES information.
- After a comment period, the meeting was adjourned at 8:02 PM. As customary, refreshments of coffee, soda, and pizza were provided to all the attendees.
- --de Steve VanSickle WB2HPR / Secretary

Thanksgiving Came Early for WA2LVA

Bob Stanley, WA2LVA, found himself leaving November's membership meeting with a Thanksgiving turkey courtesy of EGARA. He had the winning ticket for the meeting's Grand Prize.

Another turkey giveaway is planned for the December Christmas Banquet, which will also see Santa give one lucky club member a new tri-band HT radio. This year's holiday party will be held December 12th at the Hilltop Cafe at 143 Troy Schenectady Rd. Watervliet at 6:30 pm. Dinner includes four entree choices, beverages and dessert for just \$21 per person, gratuity included. BYOB.

For reservations, contact Bryan Jackson by email W2RBJ@outlook.com.

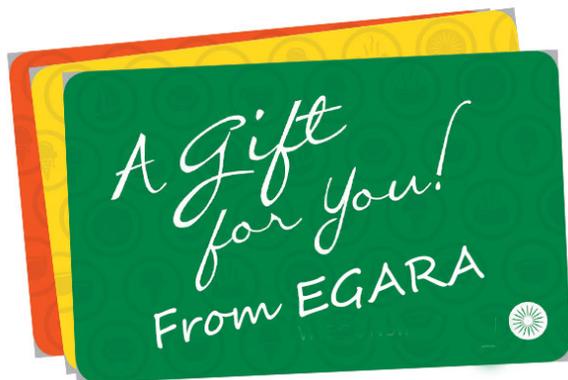


On the Beam

News & Notes

The Holidays Bring Rewards for EGARA Members

Gifts to be Awarded for Participation in Club Activities



Redeem Your Points!

A member earning ten points will be eligible for one of the following rewards of their choosing:

- \$10 prepaid gift card (Visa / Mastercard)
- Free admission to a club VE exam session for license upgrade (\$15 value);
- \$10 credit towards annual EGARA individual or family membership dues (\$10 is maximum credit that can be applied toward dues).

As part of the rewards program started this year by the club, gift cards and other awards will be given to eligible members who earned points for participating in club activities throughout the year. The awards will be distributed during the club's annual holiday party on December 12th.

Members earn points for:

- Meeting attendance (1 point earned *per* meeting);
- Join or renew ARRL membership through EGARA (5 points)
- Participation in club-sponsored Public Service event (1 point *per* event);
- Field Day activities (1 point for *each* activity, including: set up, operating & tear down/clean up – total of 3 points possible);
- Hamfest participation (1 point);
- Making a presentation at a club meeting (1 point);
- Participation as a VE session team member (1 point *per* session -- available to certified VEs only);
- Authoring newsletter article (1 point *per* article published);
- Other activities that may be approved by the EGARA Board (point value to be determined by the Board)

Rewards expire at the end of November each year.

December 1st Marks EGARA Special Event Station

On Saturday, December 1st, EGARA will commemorate its 20th anniversary by operating a Special Event station using the club's call sign W2EGB. Each club member who participates will use their own equipment and use the club call in place of their own. The event has been published with ARRL on both its website and in QST magazine. It is scheduled to run from 2 pm to 9 pm Eastern Standard Time (EST). On November 16th, each EGARA member was sent an email with instructions on how to participate, along with a copy of the log sheet to be used.

The frequencies we have published for this Special Event station are: 3,840 (80 meters), 7,240 (40 meters), 14,340 (20 meters) and 28,340 (10 meters). Should a listed frequency be in use, you may ask if those operating on it might be willing to move to another frequency, or as an alternative, find an open adjacent frequency on which to operate on. Club members who wish to operate on other bands are free to do so (6 meters, 160 meters, etc), especially if band conditions are poor.

The operating script is: "CQ, CQ, CQ calling CQ (80, 40, 20, 10) meters. This is Special Event Station W2EGB calling. Whiskey Two Echo Golf Bravo, W2EGB in East Greenbush, New York calling CQ (80, 40, 20, 10) meters. Special Event Station W2EGB is commemorating the 20th anniversary of the East Greenbush Amateur Radio Association. Hello CQ, CQ, CQ (80, 40, 20, 10) meters. This is Special Event Station W2EGB calling and standing by."

Let the QSO know QSL cards will be sent to stations providing self addressed stamped envelopes to: EGARA, Box 25, East Greenbush, NY 12061. Stations may also send only postage, as our QSL cards are also designed for direct mailing as well.



The History of Ham Radio: Aerials, Attachments, and Audibility

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)

Aside from the spark gap, the aerial was then, as the antenna system is today, a source of intense interest and experimentation. Aerials partly governed resonance in both transmitter and receiver, and therefore played an integral part in determining the wavelength of operation. In QST, The Old Man advised that amateurs should not simply make aerials as long as possible but stick with lengths of around 175 meters with short lead-in and ground connections, so as to stay close to the 200 meter limit, and operate efficiently there.

At least four kinds of antennas were in widespread use: the vertical fan, umbrella, inverted-L and T aerial. A simple vertical wire was also used, called a Hertz or Marconi aerial depending on whether or not a ground connection was involved. A fan antenna consisted of several vertical wires connected close together at the base and then fanned out up to a high horizontal support wire suspended between two masts. This was considered the most effective amateur antenna at the time, and the one to choose if you had the room. The umbrella aerial, not very popular at all, consisted of a single vertical support from which a conical arrangement of wires sloped down towards the ground forming a circle around the base. The inverted-L and T antennas were pretty much the same as they are today, except they invariably involved several parallel wires at the top separated by insulating spreaders. As today on 160 meters, these were perhaps the most popular kind of aerial because they are small and require simpler supports, yet are effective radiators. All aerials simply had single-wire connections directly to the transmitter, possibly including an inductor or capacitor for tuning. Two-conductor feed lines were yet to be widely used.

Humor writer Charles Wolfe, a frequent QST contributor, summed up aerials in this way:

“The aerial is the first thing the prospective amateur considers. The aerial is also the last thing the disgusted veteran considers, when about to dismantle. Incidentally, one continues to consider it throughout his entire career. Consideration of the aerial enriches the vocabulary. Even as Minerva sprang full-grown from the forehead of Jove, so do many new, picturesque, and very expressive cuss-words spring spontaneously from the lips of the hapless bug as he considers the wreck of a fallen aerial. The last thing the enthusiast considers at night is his aerial, wondering if it will last the night and knowing blame well it won't. The first thing the same enthusiast considers in the morning is his aerial, wondering if it's still up, and knowing blame well it isn't.”

Maxim's own station, an exemplar of the state-of-the-art, was profiled as such in a two-page article in July 1920 QST.3 Coincidentally, this is the same issue in which the ARRL diamond emblem was first introduced—its schematic antenna symbol evocative of the fan antenna. His own impressive fan installation appeared that month in the first photograph ever to appear on a QST cover, and was described as the “most novel departure from regular practice,” although the article did not say exactly how.

Maxim's spark transmitter was located in the basement to be close to the ground connection and to keep its noise isolated from the first floor library where the receiver, key, changeover switch and other apparatus made up the operating position. A non-synchronous rotary gap was at the heart of the transmitter.



Maxim's fan antenna,
as viewed from his back yard.

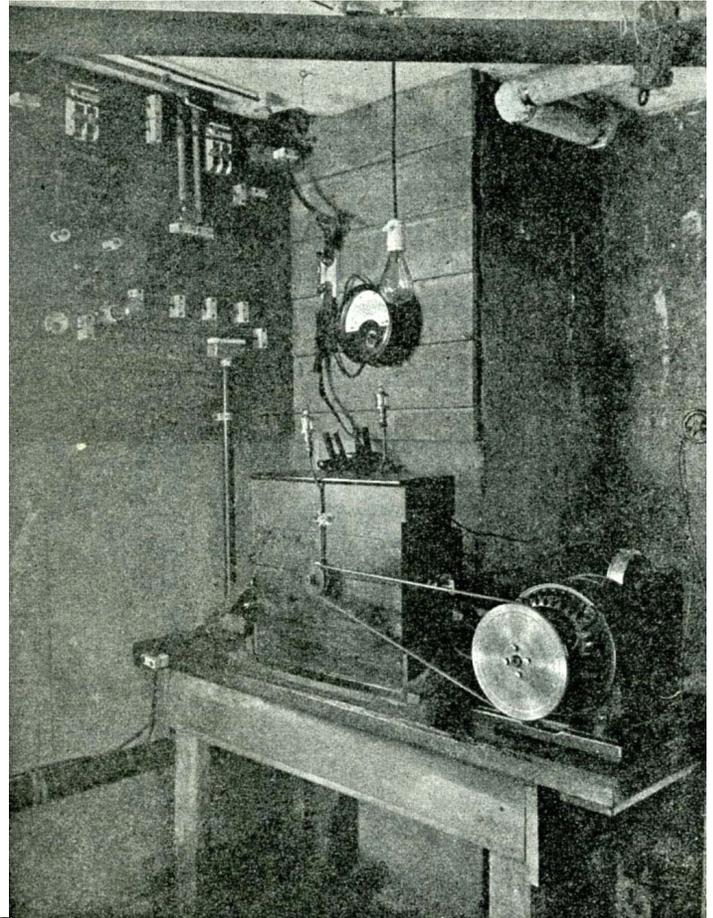
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Aerials, Attachments, and Audibility...

After years of experimentation he had arrived at his 1920 design—a four-electrode rotor in the shape of a 15-inch diameter cross was driven at 7,000 rpm inside an asbestos-lined wooden box containing two stationary electrodes. (An earlier version of this gap had been previously described in an anonymously written article without identifying it as Maxim's.) The rotor and metal hub were “live” at the high voltage and insulated only by the drive belt linking the rotor pulley on the front of the box with the one on the drive motor mounted next to it. The main power was connected through the key on the operating desk directly to the main transformer that charged his .01 mfd., 24,000 volt Dubilier mica condenser.

With this transmitter, his station operated with 770 watts input power and had been heard as far away as Nebraska. “In point of consistent performance we believe it ranks with the top-liners in the amateur world,” wrote ARRL secretary Kenneth Warner. This is the same rotary gap that, along with some other transmitting components, can be seen today (minus the asbestos lining) at W1AW, the Maxim Memorial Station at ARRL Headquarters.

Although several hams operated from Maxim's station, you'd know who was at the key by their sine—Maxim was HP and Warner, KB.



The spark transmitter in Maxim's basement.

Before the advent of standardized signal reports, such as RST, or objective measurements of received signal level in microvolts or even the sometimes less standard S-units, hams described signals in ways that would most likely be familiar to other hams.

One such way that appeared frequently in early QST was to state how far from the headphones a received signal could be heard. In the days when speakers were uncommon, and a receiver was little more than an antenna, a passive detector and headphones, the sounds you'd hear were literally generated directly by the signal itself.

What better way could there be to describe the strength of such a signal than by how far across the room you could still hear and copy it? This kind of description carried through well into the age of vacuum tubes.



Maxim's station in the library of his home.

Next Month: The Audion

Notes from Across the Pond: A Hands-On Review of a QRP Transceiver



EGARA's member in France, Jean-Claude Angebaud, F1AKE, has sent along some notes about a QRP transceiver made in Finland that he's been using with good results. It is the JUMA TRX1 -- a five watt unit that includes both SSB and CW modes on both the 80 and 40 meter bands. The TRX1 was later replaced by the TRX2, which produces 10 watts. It now appears that neither radio is being produced anymore, but used units can still be found offered for sale on the Internet.

Jean-Claude reports that he has been very successful making contacts throughout Europe with his TRX1 since he acquired it about a year ago. He uses it with a dipole he built with the help of EGARA member Christ Link, N2NEH, along with a balun and MFJ918 tuner. He says his contacts report that his transmissions are of excellent quality.

More information about the TRX transceiver can be found on the JUMA website located at: <http://www.jumaradio.com/shop/index.php>.



Suffering Mike Fright? Try this Cure!

For many new hams the biggest challenge to getting on the air isn't buying gear or setting up their shack. It's getting over "mike fright" -- the fear of actually talking to other hams on the radio.

Luckily, there's a place to learn on-air operating skills where new hams can learn to operate without worry. It's an on-air round table designed just for newbies and it operates twice a month by the Albany Area Amateur Radio Association. It began November 5th and is set to operate on the first and third Monday of each month at 8 pm on the K1FFK Mt. Greylock repeater, 146.910 with PL 162.20.

EGARA Vice President Nick Field, KD2JCR, said the Newbie Round Table is an excellent opportunity for newly licensed Techs. "This was how I got over my mike fright when I was new to the hobby. I'm glad to see someone took control and got it up and running again."

In addition to discussing operating protocols, the Round Table also gives new hams the opportunity to ask technical questions and solve issues they may be facing.



Newbie Round Table
8:00pm (2000hrs)
The first and third Monday of each month.
Mt Greylock repeater K1FFK
146.910 with PL 162.2

December: This Month in Radio History



December 1, 1995: FCC eliminates Restricted Radiotelephone Operator Permit requirement to operate a broadcast station

December 6, 1923: President Coolidge makes the first presidential address on U.S. radio

December 7, 1938: The St. Louis Dispatch begins a two-year experiment to deliver newspapers by radio facsimile, first transmission via W9XZY

December 9, 1968: Douglas Engelbart demonstrates the computer mouse

December 12, 1901: Marconi receives first trans-Atlantic wireless signal

December 12, 1960: Laser invented

December 14, 1877: Ernst Werner von Siemens patents the first loudspeaker

December 15, 1961: John Battison calls for Institute of Broadcast Engineers in Broadcast Engineering editorial

December 16, 1925: Dynamic loudspeaker is designed by Chester Rice and Edward Kellogg.

December 18, 1958: U.S. launches SCORE (Signal Communication by Orbiting Relay Equipment) to transmit radio message from President Eisenhower, effectively becoming the first communications satellite

December 20, 1991: USA Digital Radio created

December 22, 2000: Sirius Satellite Radio completes satellite system -

December 24, 1898: First ship-to-shore message sent

December 24, 1906: Fessenden transmits first distant voice/music broadcast

December 27, 1947: Bell Labs invents transistor

CALENDAR

December 1, 2018 - EGARA Special Event Station to mark the club's 20th Anniversary. 2 pm to 9 pm EST.

December 12, 2018 - EGARA Christmas Holiday Party, 6:30 pm, Hilltop Cafe, 143 Troy Schenectady Rd, Watervliet.

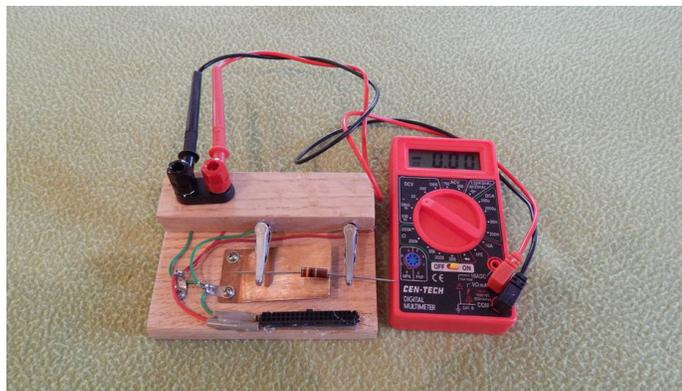
January 9, 2019 - FCC Exam Session - 10 am East Greenbush Library.

January 9, 2019 - EGARA Membership Meeting, Antenna Building Party, masonic Temple @ 7 pm.

Pro Tip: Build a Resistor Checker

You can get all sorts of guides for decoding resistor color codes and values. But you might be better off not using them at all. Why?

Because even if you know the codes it is easy to misinterpret the colors, especially if they're faded. Plus, many resistors -- like most of those with 1% tolerance -- do not use the color code at all. Instead it is easier just to measure them.



Leave out a meter set on resistance and give each part a quick check before you use it. Do this even if you have pre-sorted the resistors, because it is easy to make a mistake.

Better yet, build yourself a resistor checker like the one in the picture. Complete instructions can be found on the Internet at:

<https://www.instructables.com/id/Third-Hand-for-Your-Multimeter/>



For Sale

Kenwood TS-690S Transceiver - Excellent condition - Covers 160 to 6 meters, all modes, 100 watts. Comes with manual, power cord, microphone. Outstanding performance and audio. One of Kenwood's best. \$675.00.

Contact: Bryan at W2RBJ@outlook.com

Arrow Model 52-S4 - 4-Element 6 Meter Yagi antenna in good condition. \$75.00 See: <http://www.arrowantennas.com/solid/52-4s.html> for details

Contact Steve at: svansick@nycap.rr.com

TYT MD-2017 HT with accessories. Excellent condition. The radio comes with everything that was included in the original box minus the box. It also comes with an external microphone, extra battery, and a battery eliminator.

Contact: Dave at davidjaegerjr@gmail.com>

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

Don't Miss the Fun!



EGARA's Christmas Party is coming right up, with lots of friendship and fun... plus some early gifts from Santa!

**Be sure to make your dinner reservation
by December 3rd!**

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.