

Finger Lakes

Chapter #29

Founded March 29, 1966



February

2020

Newsletter

### Chapter Information

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Newsletter Archive:	<a href="https://www.qcwa.org/chapter029.htm">https://www.qcwa.org/chapter029.htm</a>			

## January Meeting

Our first meeting of the new year of 2020 took place at our usual location, the Denny's in North Syracuse on January 31st with a smiling group of 25 in attendance. Present were Ken Blume-K2UPI and XYL Diane; Ron Panetta-WB2WGH; Bob Powell-KD2KKG; David Robinson-KB2HBA and Marge Mahan; Tim Colson-N2VZD; Rita Colson-KC2GFT; Frank Wiethuechter-K2RSY; Jerry Wright-NK2C; Doug Falcon-N2JOM; Larry Rusch-KD2MTG and guest Karen Johnson; Roger Hamilton-WA2AEW; Harold Ferguson-KE2FV; Craig Cobb-WA2ZVN; Philip Dosmer-KC2YLB; Barry Burge-KD4MCB; Bob Goettel-WA2LBG; Steve Auyer-N2TKX; Dan O'Shea-N2MRE; John McKee-WB2YGN; Amir Findling-K9CHP; Gary Kimball-WB2SER and Earl Dewey-KB2VJ

After ample time for coffee, breakfast, and friendly conversation, we kicked off the meeting a few minutes early with a program by Steve Auyer N2TKX about his restoration of two "bed" radios from the 1950s era. These specialized AM receivers were designed to attach to the headboard of a standard bed, and included a reading light with a separate switch, making it a dual purpose unit. The first, a product of Mitchell Manufacturing of Chicago, contained a standard circuit with five octal tubes and a loop antenna. Performance was equal

to other radios of its type, and restoration was easily accomplished. The circuit ground (one side of the AC power line) was isolated from the chassis for safety. New retail cost was about \$30.00. The second radio, made by Jewel, used only four 7 pin miniature tubes, and was priced in the \$15.00 range. It contained no IF amplifier, and seemed to use a simple 2 coil bandpass filter for selectivity. As would be expected, the performance was less than the Mitchell, with reduced sensitivity and selectivity. It used a simple wire antenna, rather than a loop, and the circuit ground was connected to the chassis. Safety was assured by fiber washers isolating the cabinet assembly screws from the hot chassis. Steve passed around several copies of his seven page printout for the group to examine. Steve concluded the talk after answering several questions, and received a round of applause.



**Dr. Barry Rabin WB1FFI joining us for his first QCWA meeting on December 27th**

After a brief breather for coffee refills, Chapter President Frank K2RSY opened the business meeting at 11:39 AM. He brought the sad news of the passing of two area operators: Robert Beilstein KR2JB, and Johannes Schilling WB2PIF. Copies of their obituaries were passed around.

A call for information from other area clubs brought news from Barry KD4MCB of the next RAGS meeting on February 13th at the North Syracuse Community Center. A program by the National Weather Service in Binghamton will be presented. And it's not too early to be thinking about applications for the RAGS scholarships for this year. Prizes will be awarded to licensed area hams attending college or technical school. For LARC, Bob KD2KKG noted that their next meeting on February 27th will feature a program on direction finding, in preparation for the start of a dedicated group of interference sleuths. And he reminded us that the next Extra Class License course will begin on March 17th. The new exam question pool will take effect in the middle of this summer, and will likely be more difficult. Bob WA2LGB noted that the Fulton ARC will host their next meeting on February 26th at the Oswego County Office Building in Fulton. Planning for a club history section on their web site will take place, and the Tom Cantine Memorial Scholarship Fund

will be accepting applications for this year's award. Also, their General Class License course will start on March 2nd. Check their web site for details.

Larry KD2MTG and Bob KD2EAQ will be hosting a new simplex net on the first Thursday of each month at 7 PM on 146.52 MHz, starting on February 6th. This is an experiment to acquaint newer operators with simplex capabilities. All are invited to join in on the fun. Larry and Bob's CW practice runs continue on Tuesdays at 5:30 PM and Saturdays at 9 AM. Interested parties should meet on the 146.67MHz KD2SL repeater for the frequency to use.

Barry KD4MCB noted that he made 37 contacts and had lots of fun in a brief stint with the Winter Field Days. Otis the cat helped. Amir K9CHP also worked it using the new JS8CALL digital mode, and reported much success. And Jerry NK2C worked several stations from the Museum of Science and Technology station K2MST between answering visitor questions and handing out information packets.



**Amir K9CHP acknowledging the applause after announcing his upcoming January 12th wedding**

Amir K9CHP noted that it is not too early to sign up for the St. Patrick's Day Parade public service. This year there will be a unified command operating from the Public Safety Building for the first time. The winner of the 50-50 this month was Earl KB2VSN, and Dan N2MRE won an Allied Radio CW practice album donated by Steve N2TKX. Hope to see everyone at our next meeting on February 28th at the Denny's. Enjoy ham radio!!



## Birthdays

### February

12th - Clyde Washburn - K2UE

### March

7th - Jeryl Wright - NK2C

### April

15th - Dick Goslee - KG2I  
17th - Ronald Walter - N2DMP  
25th - Craig Cobb - WA2ZVN



## My Novice Station Articles Wanted

Right now I have no one on deck for the January newsletter so get your keyboard or paper/pen out and throw together a quick historical glimpse at your novice station to share with the group. Please email me, Ron Panetta ([ron@panman.us](mailto:ron@panman.us)) and I will share with the group.



1st = first week of month, 2nd = second week of month, ..., Last = last week of month

# March 2020

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 7p—RAGS Net, 3.922 LSB</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 7p—Fireside Chat Net, 146.67R</li> <li>• 8:30p WiresX Tech Net 147.39R</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 5:30p—CW Net, 146.67R</li> <li>• 7p—QCWA 6M Net, 53.05R</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 7p—Swap Net, 147.00R</li> </ul>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 7p—220 Net, 224.12</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 9a—CW Net, 146.67R</li> <li>• 7:30p—SSTV Net, 146.67R</li> <li>• 9p—Int WiresX 147.39R</li> </ul>
1	2 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 6:30p—LARC Board</li> </ul>	3	4	5	6	7 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• ARRL SSB DX</li> </ul>
8 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Daylight Savings Time Begins</li> <li>• ARRL SSB DX</li> </ul>	9	10	11	12 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 6p—RAGS Meeting (2nd)</li> <li>• 7p—Utica ARC Meeting (2nd)</li> </ul>	13	14 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Saratoga ARA Swapfest</li> </ul>
15	16	17 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• St. Patrick's Day</li> </ul>	18	19	20 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• First Day of Spring</li> </ul>	21
22	23	24	25 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 7p—Fulton ARC Meeting (4th)</li> </ul>	24 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 5:30p—LARC VE Session</li> <li>• 6:15p—W2CM Bootcamp</li> <li>• 7p—LARC Meeting (4th)</li> </ul>	27 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 11:30a—QCWA Luncheon, Denny's (last)</li> </ul>	28
29	30	31				

# Meeting Photos

(Available at <http://photos.panman.us/>, -> Amateur Radio, password "Frank")

