



# GRAM NEWS



Volume 42, No. 10

W2RCX

June 2004

## June Meeting

The June meeting of GRAM will be held on Thursday, June 17th, 2004. The first part of the meeting will be at the Genesee Fire Training Center at 7690 State Street, Batavia, New York. The time to meet at the Fire Center is 6:30 PM. We will have a tour of the building and what it has to offer. This will take about 1/2 hour and then we will go back to the Salvation Army for our meeting.

This month's program will be about our 2004 Batavia Hamfest, how, what, and where, you will be needed to make this Hamfest go along easily.

## It's Election Time

Elections will also be part of our June meeting. The following have been nominated for Club Officer and Board of Director positions. The nominations were made during the May meeting. Nominations will be taken from the floor prior to the election portion of the June meeting.

Vice President: Brian Stricker N2XNY  
Secretary: Joan Brundage KB2ZCE  
Treasurer: Harold Hay W2ABQ  
Director (exp 8/31/06): Tom Rosica W2GIR  
Director (exp 8/31/06): Howard Flint KC2EZJ

Additional nominations from the floor:

President: Ted Karpenko KB2LXD  
Director (exp 8/31/06): Rob Roy McLean  
KC2MHH

## GRAM at the Rochester Hamfest

I want to thank all of the members who gave a donation for sale at the Rochester Hamfest. I want to say to all of the persons that came and helped with the sale of items, passing flyers to vendors and hamfest goers, thanks again.

A total of 1500 flyers were passed out. The total sale of items were \$ 2,810.10. The total sale of Batavia Hamfest tickets \$ 383.00. This makes a grand total for the Rochester Hamfest \$ 3,193.10

Thanks again so much for coming together and making it a club activity that was a lot's of fun.

Regards: Harold Hay W2ABQ

## Club Officers

President: Theodore Karpenko, KB2LXD

Vice-President: Brian Stricker, N2XNY

Secretary: Joan Brundage, KB2ZCE

Treasurer: Harold Hay, W2ABQ

## Directors

2005: Jim Cochrane, KC2EZL

2005: Joe DeFazio, W2DIG

2004: Howard Flint, KC2EZJ

2004: Peter Brundage, WB2CGF

2004: Tom Rosica, W2GIR

## Committee Chairs

Membership:	Howard Flint, KC2EZJ
Program:	Open
Newsletter:	Brian Stricker N2XNY
Website:	Brian Stricker N2XNY
Publicity:	Tom Rosica W2GIR
Education:	Brian Stricker N2XNY
Christmas Party:	Don & Cheryl Yaxley KB2QKE & KB2RFI
Field Day:	Joe Ogozaly KC2IQT Terry Cook KC2JKU
Picnic:	Howard KC2EZJ & Carol Flint
Historian:	Open
Ways & Means	Harold Hay, W2ABQ

## Committee Chairs (cont'd)

Hamfest:	Harold Hay W2ABQ
RFI:	Harold Hay W2ABQ
Equipment:	John Maha K2ZUT
Benevolence:	Joan Brundage KB2ZCE
Repeater:	Harold Hay W2ABQ
ARRL:	Dr. David Bell W2YCS
ARES/RACES:	Les Wilcox WA2GUP

## Club Repeater

The club operates a 2m repeater, W2RCX, on 147.285 MHz with a + offset. The repeater control persons are:

Harold Hay W2ABQ  
Howard Flint KC2EZJ  
John Maha K2ZUT  
Joe Defazio W2DIG

The GRAM Net is held on the club's repeater, W2RCX, on Thursday nights at 9:00PM. All amateurs with a technician class or higher license are invited to check in. This is an informal net. So come on and join in on the fun !

If the repeater is off the air, please tune to 147.285 MHz simplex and attempt to contact a repeater control person.



## Items for Sale

Yaesu FT-990 AC DC \$ 600.00  
Alpha Power 99 \$ 3.500.00 New only used 3 hours.

Call ,Tom Casey W2TDX 585-344-2960

Regards: Harold Hay

## SO-50 now available to all via CTCSS tone:

AMSAT-NA says the the SO-50 <<http://www.amsat.org/amsat/sats/n7hpr/so50.html>> satellite--also known as SaudiSat-1C--now is available to all, and users can switch on the Mode J transponder via a CTCSS tone. Previously, only one of the three control operators could turn on the spacecraft for amateur communication. Here's the procedure: Transmit on 145.850 MHz (taking Doppler effect into account) using a CTCSS tone of 74.4 Hz to arm the onboard 10-minute timer. Then, transmit FM voice on 145.850 MHz using a CTCSS tone of 67.0 Hz to actuate the repeater within the 10-minute window (SO-50 takes a half second or so to start transmitting once a signal is received, so users should pause briefly before talking). SO-50's downlink frequency is 436.800 MHz. Sending the 74.4 Hz CTCSS tone again within the 10-minute window resets the timer. Launched in December 2002, SO-50 sports a quarter-wave vertical receiving antenna mounted at the top corner of the spacecraft. The transmitter runs 250 mW into a quarter-wave antenna mounted on the bottom corner of the spacecraft and canted 45 degrees inward.

Courtesy ARRL Letter Vol. 23, No. 24 June 11, 2004

## Editors Note

If you have an article that you would like to submit to GRAM NEWS, please submit them via e-mail. My e-mail address is: N2XNY@yahoo.com. I understand that not everyone has e-mail, so you can also send submissions to:

GRAM Radio Club  
PO Box 572  
Batavia, NY 14021-0572

## Program Chairperson Needed

After many, many years, Tom Rosica is stepping down as the Program Chairperson. Many thanks go out to Tom for a job well done. As such, the Program Chairperson position is open to any member of the club. If you are interested in this important position, please let the club officers and board members know.

## Activities

Is there a Ham Radio activity (Fox hunt, contest, satellite, SSTV, Road Trip to Dayton, etc.) that you would be interested in ? Chances are that others in the club share the same interest. Please let a board member or club officer know. They can let the rest of the club know about the activity, recruit participants, and select a date.

## Membership Chairperson Needed

The club is in need of a Membership Chairperson. As of 11/30/03 Harold Hay, W2ABQ, will relinquish his Membership Chairperson duties. If you are interested in this Chair, please contact a Club Officer or Board Member.

The club thanks Harold for his tenure as Membership Chairperson.

## Upcoming Events

6/17 GRAM Meeting  
 6/19 Don Carroll Race  
 6/26&27 Field Day  
 7/17 Batavia Hamfest  
 8/7 Club Picnic

## ARES/RACES Update

On 19 June the Don R. Carroll Batavia Scholarship Race will be held. Last year we had excellent coverage because 13 hams were involved (which included three from Orleans County Club). We need all of those people and a few more this year.

The race officials hope to have better coverage of flagmen for traffic control so we can concentrate on communications. However, due to schedule conflicts and a Silent Key, there will be three positions (including net control) that will need coverage.

This can easily be done by some new persons stepping forward to serve for the morning. I hope to be at the June GRAM meeting and can get your commitment then. If you can e-mail me at [wilcox26@rochester.rr.com](mailto:wilcox26@rochester.rr.com), before the GRAM meeting that would be helpful. It might even help prevent a few grey hairs!

So, please check (or adjust) your schedule so you can serve, and maybe even invite someone who hasn't worked the race to be involved, too.

Incidentally, they have some excellent plans for the meal and we are invited. We'll meet about 8:00 a.m. in the parking lot on the left side as you drive toward the main building. We usually all go in to register at the same time to get shirts.

In advance, many thanks.  
 Les, WA2GUP  
 Emergency Coordinator for GCAR (Genesee County ARES/RACES)

## Kentucky's youngest amateur also youngest Extra:

ARRL Kentucky Section Manager John Meyers, NB4K, says League member Christopher Lee Castle, KI4BOQ, of West Van Lear, Kentucky, not only is the youngest radio amateur in the Blue Grass State, he's its youngest Amateur Extra class licensee.

Castle got his Technician ticket last July at age 11. After upgrading to General in January, he passed the Extra examination on St Valentine's Day--less than 10 days before his 12th birthday.

The youngster hails from a family of hams, taking not only after his father, Ron Castle, KI4NM, and grandfather, Donald Castle, KI4NL, and grandmother, Deloris Castle, N4OKP, but his late great-grandfather Clyde Castle Jr, N4KJQ. He says his biggest thrill in Amateur Radio was getting his Extra before his granddad did.

Castle enjoys DXing, and he's a member of the Big Sandy Amateur Radio Club and Johnson County ARES. In addition to his ham radio activities, Castle plays the drums, steel guitar and a little piano, and he's won drum and steel guitar competitions. He also is a member of the Porter Elementary/Johnson County Middle School Academic/Future Problem Solving team, part of the Future Problem Solving Program <<http://www.fpsp.org/>>. During a competition June 3-6, his teams placed second and fourth in the world, while the Johnson County Middle School Team--to which he'll be recruited in the fall, took first place in the world. The competition included participants from all 50 states and 10 countries. "Chris is so proud and told many students about his involvement in ham radio," said his dad, "and many seemed very interested."--John Meyers, NB4K; Ron Castle, KI4NM

Taken from The ARRL Letter Vol. 23, No. 24  
 June 11, 2004

Submitted by Howard Flint KC2EJZ



