

The VHF JOURNAL



April 1999 - Volume 50 Number 6

Dedicated to the Radio Experimenters, Contesters and Operators above 50 MHz, along America's North Coast

In this Issue . . .

- **This Months Meeting**
- **President's Note:**
- **Banquet News**
- **Nominating Committee:**
- **Meeting for Dayton?**
- **Spring VHF Thoughts**
- **For Sale**
- **From the Treasurer**
- **From the Secretary**
- **In praise of Contests**
- **Editor's Notes**

Membership in THE ROCHESTER VHF GROUP is by application. Dues are \$10 (Ten Dollars U.S. - \$15 U.S. for Canadian Members) per year. Make Checks payable to "The Rochester VHF Group". Membership expires on May 31st.

The Club meets on the second Friday of each Month, September through June, at the Monroe County Social Services building at 111 Westfall Road. Commercial advertising prices are \$20 (twenty dollars U.S.) per year per space and must be arranged through The Advertising Manager. Non-commercial "For Sale" or "Wanted" ads are free.

Unless otherwise noted, permission is granted to reprint articles, provided proper credit is given to "The VHF Journal" and the author as noted. This document is protected by COPYRIGHT 1997-1998.

Please address your Rochester VHF Group business to the P.O. Box listed on the reverse.

Since information is considered perishable (time sensitive), please be sure to send VHF JOURNAL correspondence to the above mentioned P.O. Box. or contact The VHF Journal's Editor, Curtis Braun via the internet: curtis.braun@digital.com or braun@netacc.net.
<http://vhfgroup@rochesterny.org>

This Months Meeting . . .

Place:	Mario's Abruzzi Monroe Ave.
Time:	6:30 PM Saturday April 10, 1999
Program:	RVHFG Banquet RVHFG
Presenter:	
Dead Line for Journal:	May 1, 1999

President's Note:

By Steve, N2ULL

Your help is needed on June 4th, 5th, 6th with the Rochester VHF Group booth at the Rochester Hamfest this year. We are looking for volunteers to help set up, staff and tear down our booth this year as in years past. It is not too early to start thinking about volunteering an hour or two if you are able to, And your time would be greatly appreciated.

Please let me (N2ULL) or Tim (NS9E) know if you are interested and we will be sure to put you on a list. We will have sign up sheets available at the May meeting. Please note that on Hamfest Friday we need help between 8am and 12 noon to set up so if you can help us here that would be great.

So, are you ready to help the club? Of course you are, Staffing the booth is a lot of FUN and you get to meet the members renewing or maybe just chatting with someone who was thinking about becoming a NEW member and signing them up, What could be more fun? So will YOU help? See you at the Rochester Hamfest.

Please note our Web-site Address:

The URL is

<http://vhfgroup.rochesterny.org/>

Celebrate RVHF Groups 50th Anniversary!

Nominating Committee:

By RVHG Board via Len, WA2ZNC

I have listed the nominations for offices for the 1999/2000 term below. Call if you think you can serve in the Vice Chairman position, please...

Chairman	NS9E	Tim
Vice Chairman		up for grabs
Treasurer	N2OPW	Paul
Secretary	K2OS	Frank
Odd year Director	K2DH	Dave

Committee:

Len	WA2ZNC	(716) 229-5470
Tim	NS9E	(716) 247-4798
Jim	N2VNO	(716) 381-3102

Banquet News:

By RVHG Board via K2DH

Date: Saturday April 10th.

**Time: 5:30 PM Cocktails,
6:30 PM Dinner**

Place: Mario's Via Abruzzi,
(Pittsford. same place as last year)

Menu: Buffet

Price: \$23.00

Music: By Brad

Tickets: ASAP via

**Dave, K2DH 716-728-9517,
Irv AF2K 716-671-4430,
Len WA2ZNC 716-229-5470**

Please pick them up via the volunteers below, or call Try or Dave and put in a reservation.

This is very important so that we can get a head count by Thursday April 8th.

Don't forget to call to reserve and/or pick up your banquet tickets for the 50th Rochester VHF Group Celebration.

Meeting for Dayton?:

By Tom, WA8WZG

THE VHF WEAK SIGNAL GROUP THAT MEETS MONDAY NIGHTS AT 0200 UTC. ON 3.843 MHZ, WOULD LIKE TO INVITE EVERYONE THAT IS COMING TO THE DAYTON HAMVENTION TO OUR ANNUAL BANQUET. WE HAVE RESERVED A ROOM, THAT WILL SEAT 125, ON FRIDAY NIGHT MAY 14 TH FROM 6:30 PM UNTIL 11:00 PM AT THE HOLIDAY INN NORTH, WAGONER FORD RD DAYTON, OHIO THERE WILL BE A CASH BAR AS WELL AS PLENTY OF SEATING TO ALLOW YOU TO MIX AND MINGLE WITH OTHER VHFERS FROM ALL OVER THE COUNTRY AND THE WORLD. THERE WILL BE OVER 50 PRIZES WITH TWO GRAND PRIZES WORTH OVER \$300 DOLLARS EACH BEING DRAWN STARTING AT 9:00 PM. ALSO, THERE WILL BE A GUEST SPEAKER WHO WILL PROVIDE A SHORT TALK ON VHF ACTIVITY. THERE WILL ALSO BE A NOISE FIGURE MEASURING TABLE SO BRING YOUR PREAMPS TO TWEAK. THE COST OF A TICKET TO ATTEND THIS FUNCTION WHICH INCLUDES THE 2 ENTREE BANQUET DINNER, IS ONLY \$30.00 PER PERSON, AND THEY ARE LIMITED TO 125. YOU MAY ORDER YOUR TICKETS BY SENDING \$30.00 PLUS AN SASE TO EITHER:

TONY EMANUELE, WA8RJF,
7156 KORY COURT,
CONCORD TOWNSHIP ,OHIO 44077

Or

Please come to the Banquet on Saturday April 10th

TOM WHITTED, WA8WZG,
4641 PORT CLINTON EAST RD.,
PORT CLINTON, OHIO 43452

WEBSITE INFO IS:

<http://www.wa8wzg.com/>

THIS IS ONE OF THE LARGEST GATHERING OF
VHF WEAK SIGNAL ENTHUSIASTS IN THE U.S.,
SO GET YOUR TICKETS EARLY AND JOIN US FOR
AN ENJOYABLE EVENING AT THE DAYTON
HAMVENTION!

Spring VHF Thoughts:

By Tom Richmond, VE3IEY

The 144 MHz Sprint will be from 7PM until 11 PM
local time on Monday (April 12, 1999).

The 222 MHz Sprint will be from 7 PM until 11 PM
local time on Tuesday (April 20, 1999).

The 432 MHz Sprint will be from 7 PM until 11 PM
local time on Wednesday (April 28, 1999).

The 902 MHz, 1296, and 2304 MHz Sprint will be on
Saturday (May 8, 1999) from 6 AM until 1 PM local
time.

The 50 MHz Sprint will be from 2300Z Saturday
until 0300Z Sunday (May 15-16, 1999).

Sprints are ON with new sponsorship! See the
following web-page:

<http://www.arrl.org/contests/announcements/99/spring-sprints.html>

For Sale
March 99

BELDEN 9913:100 ft. reel -50 \$.
MIL RG-213: 0.30 \$/ft; or precut with
2xN(M) conn. installed, 150 ft.50\$.

BIRD 8135 Load, NEW: 150 W rated to 4
kMcps =100 \$ (247 \$ in BIRD 97 Cat)
Shipping extra all.

Dean, WB2QCJ, (716) 385-1294.
(dkeyser@harris.com)

April 99

10G/24G WBFM units w/ tri-pod complete ARR
30 Mhz IF boards \$150.00; Working Laser
w/tri-pod 75.00

Wayne F. King 716-638-8556
[wfking@worldnet.att.net]

From the Treasurer...

By Len WA2ZNC

Treasurer Report:

Income:		
(dues, awards, tickets)	\$	528.00
Expenses:		
(mailings, tickets)		93.00
\$	-----	
total	\$	621.00

Balance on Hand:

Checking acct.	\$	675.46
Saving acct.	\$	1780.08

Total		\$2,455.54

Treasurer
WA2ZNC, Len

From the Secretary:

By Wally. WY2Z

RVHFGROUP BOARD MTG 2/22/99:

The W2UTH motion was rescinded before the
meeting due to lack of time to participate.

Our participation in the HAMFEST is in good
shape. There are 3 speakers who have
signed. Once again it should be an
enjoyable and a good learning opportunity.

Len Gessin ,wa2znc and Diane Hallidy have
offered to set up the annual

banquet for Saturday, April 10th. More information at the next meeting.

The last item was a discussion on what we can do to bring back the RVHFG of old. This is something each one of us should give some quality thinking time to.

A few areas, not the only ones:

Programs, Projects and Activities might be good for preliminary thoughts. Hey, gang, let's GO.

In praise of Contests... sort of:

By Tom. VE3TEY

I am the first to admit it: my operating practices have changed. It used to be I was on the air each night. Well, all sorts of things intervene in the years between 17 and 39, and it's just not that way anymore. I and many like me just find family and relationships and work fill more of our time, and in many cases they are just plain more important than ANY hobby. As far as radio goes, I find myself focusing mainly on the major VHF+ operating events of the year (the contests), because there just isn't a lot of pleasure to be gained the rest of the year from calling CQ for hours at a time on 220 or 903.

Bear in mind we're all in this for the pleasure of it- whatever form that takes. If that means getting a big score in contests, fine. If that means building gear so you can QSO across the lake on 3456, that's great too. As life is a grand balancing act, we all can't be on the air all the time: the time that gives us the most bang for our buck is one we can plan for, set a weekend aside and build stuff to use then. This doesn't mean that everyone who just gets on for the contest is obsessed with score, or winning- for the best competition I've ever had was against

myself.

According to the comment of one attendee at the March meeting, some object to the preoccupation that the RVHFG has shown from time to time with contests. I agree. However, each of us get something different out of a contest weekend- for many of us it is a scheduled operating time away from the family, work, and other cares... almost an escape from reality, and therefore an important component in KEEPING OUR SANITY. If there was an SKN for VHF, I'd be there- a nice, noncompetitive event where everyone works everyone for the sheer joy of it.

Has life become too complex? Maybe-but my hat is off to the young folks in our midst that find radio as appealing as we did back then.., they are the future of our hobby. I enjoy the competition, but I am not out to "beat" everyone else- so the word "contest" means something else altogether to me.

How about you?

Editor's Notes:

By Curtis. N2HKD

Rumor has it that the W2UTH call may be originating from FN12 (N2PA's location) in June. Stay tuned for more Club info on the June Contest!!

CQ Spring Activity weekends are,

March 19-21 (PM), April 23-25 (Weak signal) and
May 2 1-23 (Specialty modes). 1999.

For more information see the march issue of CQ VHF.

See:

<http://www.cq-vhf.com>

Six meter contests: Six Club sprints,

April 24-25, Sat.2300 UTC to Sun.0400 UTC

May 21-24, Fri.2300 UTC to Mon.0300 UTC

July 17-18 Sat.2300 UTC to Sun.0400 UTC

See: <http://6mt.com/contest.htm>