



# THE RARA RAG

Newsletter of The Rochester Amateur Radio Association, Inc.  
Founded in 1931

## RARA PICNIC

ANAND CHOUDRI, KC2KPG - RARA VICE PRESIDENT

Our July meeting will take place on Saturday the 9th. starting at 11:00 AM at the West Lodge in Mendon Ponds Park. Please note that there will be no meeting on Friday the 1st. at the Boy Scouts building.

We will be setting up around 11:00am, the grill gets ready around noon and the burgers and hots will be ready soon after that. You are of course welcome to get there early, help us set up and to enjoy the day and each other's company.

We invite you to bring a dessert to pass so we can have an assortment of delectable treats to choose from. In the past we have been impressed and sometimes amazed by your culinary creativity and overall cooking skills. Please take this opportunity to show off those skills with our other members. We will ask the attendees to vote on the dessert of their choice and we will give membership points to the top three desserts.



Please spread the word that there is no meeting at the Boys Scouts building in July. And, if you would like to help make this event happen, you can contact any of the club's officers or board members and we will be sure to use your help with some tasks that will benefit everyone. We're confident that the picnic, like all other RARA events in the past, is going to be a blast. I hope you can join us.

This year, at the picnic, Jon Dickason will share with us his expertise in fox hunting.

Foxhunting is radio direction finding (RDF) of a hidden transmitter. The hunt will be on foot in the park. A 2-meter receiver is all that's required; you don't even need a ham license! He will show us a technique to use an HT to find the fox, and we can keep hiding and finding until we've had too much fun. Jon will show us how we can make our own hidden transmitter and directional RDF antenna. Bring your HT so you can find the fox!

Click here for directions to the picnic.

[West Lodge, Mendon Ponds Park](#)

JULY 2016  
VOLUME 68, ISSUE 11

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# PREZ SEZ

WILL MULLANEY, KC2VSJ—RARA PRESIDENT

Hello all and welcome to SUMMER (and some more Sez from the Prez)!

We're still coming off the high of a great hamfest, and looking forward to more outings. Don't forget, this month we will NOT be having our regular meeting. Instead, we will be having our member's picnic at Mendon Ponds Park! Don't forget to show up to that and all the other great events, listed below.

Earlier in the year we had suspended VE testing to get some kinks worked out. Don Kiser (AC2EV) took over as our VE team coordinator, and he and his team quickly revamped and restarted the program. I'm proud to report on their behalf that over 75 people have taken their exam with RARA since the restart! Feedback is great and things keep improving; it's really refreshing to see club members come together to accomplish something great like this. On behalf of the board of directors, our sincere thanks to Don and his team for all of their hard work, especially at last month's Hamfest with over 30 examinees. The team is on their summer break now, but they will be starting up testing again in September.

What are you going to be doing this summer with HAM radio? Recently I got the pleasure of hiking one of Colorado's 14ers, Mount Evans. In full disclosure, I drove about 13,890 feet, and hiked the last 120, but the view was great, as was the reception, even if the air was pretty thin. How are you going to be combining radio with outdoor things? A fox hunt? A hike? How about sending up a wire on a kite and operating HF from a unique location? Shoot us an email and let us know what some of your plans are and maybe we'll include them in a future issue!

In the interests of getting everyone back outside and doing something fun, I'll keep this short by wrapping it up. Hope to see you at the picnic and again in August at our regular meeting, located at the BSA on **Wednesday**. And as a reminder, August will be our FIRST meeting on our new day; we'll be moving two days earlier to the first Wednesday of the month starting in August.

Have fun and stay safe!

Regards,  
Will, KC2VSJ

## Scheduled Meeting Dates for 2016 - 2017:

August 3, 2016  
September 7, 2016  
October 5, 2016  
November 2, 2016  
December 7, 2016  
January 4, 2017  
February 1, 2017  
March 1, 2017  
April 5, 2017  
May 3, 2017  
June 7, 2017

## CALENDAR OF EVENTS

**JULY 9<sup>TH</sup>** - RARA Picnic  
11:00 AM at West Lodge, Mendon Ponds Park

**JULY 14<sup>TH</sup>** - RARA Board of Directors - TBD

# RARA Summer Picnic

Saturday July 9<sup>th</sup>

11 AM

West Lodge in Mendon Ponds Park

No July meeting

The picnic is the meeting

# PUBLIC SERVICE UPDATE

## WHAT'S IN IT FOR YOU THIS SUMMER!

Jim Stefano, Jr., W2COP, RARA Public Service Coordinator

This is worth a short read as we do have a variety of interesting events for July. You can even invite a friend or family to come along just to watch, help out or team up with another HAM. First time hams are encouraged to participate too. All you need is a 2M mobile or HT with a decent antenna. Note: We're looking for a few team captains to head up some events in August and September!

**Cross Country:** Genesee Valley Horse Trials (GVHT)  
Sunday July 17th, 2016



Amateur Radio Ops are needed for the 62nd Annual Genesee Valley Horse Trials in Geneseo. We need a minimum of 15



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volunteers to cover comms for the Sunday cross country course. The cross country phase tests the endurance and jumping skill of the horse over open country. It challenges the competitors' knowledge of pace and the ability of their horses over various terrain.

This is an all day event starting at 7am and ending by 4pm. Meals and beverages are provided during the day and after the event food and drink will be available. The event only requires 2m simplex to cover the entire course. This is an excellent event for new and old operators. If you're newly licensed, this is great practice with communicating through a net control.

**Please note: This is an open field event. The event requires walking to the various course assignments. This event is not recommended for anyone with mobility issue.**

If you're available for the day or half day, please sign up via the RARA website at:

[http://bit.ly/RARA\\_GVHunt\\_Sign-up\\_Form](http://bit.ly/RARA_GVHunt_Sign-up_Form)

**Cycling:** BikeMS:The Finger Lake Challenge  
Saturday-Sunday July 16-17, 2016



This event is in a close by and very scenic part of New York State, Penn Yan and Yates County along Keuka Lake. If you would like to help out we can always use a couple of more operators to support this fun and successful fund raiser for Multiple Sclerosis. Overnight accommodations are available for those that want to do volunteering for both days. You can contact Tom Sanders at [kb2nci@arrl.net](mailto:kb2nci@arrl.net) if you have questions. Go to [http://bit.ly/RARA\\_BikeMS\\_Sign-up\\_Form](http://bit.ly/RARA_BikeMS_Sign-up_Form) to sign up.

**Upcoming:**

ILLW - Charlotte Lighthouse - Aug. 21-22, NEED EVENT CAPTAIN \*New this year - TBD\*

BikeMS:ROC the Ride - GV Park August 27th, NEED EVENT CAPTAIN

Barktoberfest - Lollipop Farm September 24th, NEED EVENT CAPTAIN

If you are interested in taking the lead for any of these events (some radio experience required) please let me know, they can't happen with you. My email is [w2cop@arrl.net](mailto:w2cop@arrl.net). 73's - Jim

**REMINDER**

**NEW MEETING DAY**

**STARTING**

**WEDNESDAY**

**AUGUST 3, 2016**

# Under the hood: Rochester Hamfest 2016 and beyond...

Ev Tupis, W2EV

Based on formal feedback from attendees, the 2016 edition of the RARA Rochester Hamfest was a resounding success! This marked a return to a 100% RARA produced event. As such, it was almost a “re-boot” because we had to re-learn lessons that were lost over the recent past.

Last month’s RARA Rag had a recap of the hamfest itself. How about a peek, behind the scenes and a look to the future?

To that end, as the appointed “Hamfest Producer” I owe a debt of gratitude to those that “believed” and stepped forward to divide the task into manageable slices. By doing so, the work was spread out across many capable hands.

We organized ourselves into “teams” (Outdoor Operations & Ticketing, Indoor Operations & Country Store, Traffic Flow, Finance, Activities/Exploratorium, Prizes & Member Services and VE), each with a Captain. Each Captain was asked to find and work with a couple of Lieutenants.

Captains and Lieutenants then lead their squads or “cast members” by keeping communication flowing and training them. The training included both individual task(s) and how it plugged in to the duties of other squads as well.

Captains and Lieutenants met regularly to collaborate about best approaches and to learn from each other’s points-of-view to assure we were all walking in lock-step toward the same success. With just a couple of meetings behind us it all became routine (but busy...yes, anything worth doing well takes a degree of effort, right?). As Hamfest 2016 got nearer, we met more regularly.

We received a LOT of positive volunteer feedback in regard to our approach of open communication and training. Team leader communications prepped people ahead of the big day.

One of the most positive pieces of feedback concerned our 1-hour, on-site “dress rehearsal” a few days before the hamfest. Captains and Lieutenants invited their crew to Kodak/Eastman Business Park to look around, receive last minute guidance and practice.

If you were a member of the squad (or “cast”), you experienced all of this for yourself; and please accept my sincere thanks for what you made happen. If you are so inclined, consider exploring a role as a Lieutenant (or Captain) next time!

If you were not a member of this year’s volunteer squad, think about joining next time!

With “more than one person” leading the charge, a very strong future-growth and succession strategy formed.

The RARA Hamfest Producer appointment is made for a single year and serves at the pleasure of the Board of Directors. Though I intend to stay involved, I will not be seeing reappointment.

This is not a bad thing. It allows other voices to be heard, the opportunity to correct some of my mistakes (yep, there were a couple), to build upon our successes and to guide the future of our bellwether event, The Rochester Hamfest.

Here is your opportunity to join in and help to take Hamfest 2017 to the next level ... as a Producer, Captain, Lieutenant or squad member.

I have enjoyed working with so many very helpful and insightful people in the few months leading up to Hamfest 2016 and have built many friendships that will take me into the years-to-come. For that, I am grateful to the RARA Board of Directors.

Here is a sincere thanks to all who helped make HF2016 as good as it was and to those who will make HF2017 even better!

# VE TEAM

## May, 2016

<b>Steven Norman</b>	KD2LGL	T	Scott Theis	KD2KRD	E
<b>Miles Persing Jr</b>	KD2LGM	T	<b>Carole McNall</b>	KD2LGN	T
Patrick Sheedy	W2DHB	E	Randy Barriger	W2RRB	E
Ronald Marcus Jr.	KD2HRI	G	Robert Brockway	KD2FKY	E
Arthur Pellittieri	K2ADP	E	<b>David Diponzio</b>	KD2LGO	T
Raymond Pyke	N2UXO	E	<b>Nathan Prosser</b>	KD2LGP	T
<b>Scott Fybush</b>	KD2LGQ	G	<b>Katherine Juliano</b>	KD2LGR	T
<b>Rounak Narde</b>	KD2LGS	T	<b>Gregory Davey</b>	KD2LGT	G
<b>Benjamin Parnas</b>	KD2LGU	T	<b>Darrin Smith</b>	KD2LGV	T
James Darcy	KD2JUU	G	<b>Scott Migliore</b>	KD2LGW	T
William Kommritz	KB1SQX	E			

New licensees names are in BOLD

Don Kiser - AC2EV  
 RARA Board member  
 VE Team Leader  
 585-613-1035





# RARA CALENDAR

Tim Barrett, K9VB

July 2016						
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					<b>1</b> RAC Canada Day Contest	<b>2</b> Venezuela Ind. Day Marconi HF Original QRP DARC 10M Digital
<b>3</b> Venezuela Ind. Day Marconi HF Original QRP DARC 10M Digital	<b>4</b> 10-10 Int S76 QSOP	<b>5</b> Phone Fray 10-10 Int S76 QSOP	<b>6</b> 10-10 Int S76 QSOP	<b>7</b> NCCC Sprint 10-10 Int S76 QSOP	<b>8</b> 10-10 Int S76 QSOP	<b>9</b> <b>RaRa Summer Picnic</b> <b>West Lodge at Mendon Ponds Park</b> 10-10 Int S76 QSOP FISTS Summer Sprt SKCC Sprintathon
<b>10</b> RAGS 2016 Hamfest, Cicero NY 10-10 Int S76 QSOP SKCC Sprintathon	<b>11</b>	<b>12</b> Phone Fray	<b>13</b> SIARC 7.30pm	<b>14</b> NCCC Sprint	<b>15</b>	<b>16</b> Batavia Hamfest Russian Radio Team Championship CQ WW VHF NA QSOP RTTY
<b>17</b> CQ WW VHF	<b>18</b>	<b>19</b> Phone Fray	<b>20</b>	<b>21</b> NCCC Sprint	<b>22</b>	<b>23</b>
<b>24</b>	<b>25</b>	<b>26</b> Phone Fray	<b>27</b>	<b>28</b> NCCC Sprint	<b>29</b>	<b>30</b>
<b>31</b>						

Print this calendar and leave it by your radio.

# NEWS FROM AREA CLUBS

## MONROE COUNTY ARES / RACES NEWS

The Monroe County Amateur Radio Emergency Service, Inc. holds its meetings on the fourth Thursday of each month. Anyone interested, members and non-members, are welcome to attend.

The next ARES Meeting will be held on: **Thursday, June 23, 2016, at 7:00 PM.**

Meetings are held at the **Greater Rochester Chapter of the American Red Cross HQ, 50 Prince Street, Rochester, NY 14607.** (Located behind the Rochester Auditorium Theatre, 885 Main St. E.)



**ARES NET:** Monroe County ARES/RACES meets on the air every Thursday of the month at 8:00 pm, on the 146.61 MHz (-) 110.9 Hz PL repeater. The only exception to that are nights when we hold our regular meeting, generally on the 4th Thursday of the month.

**WEB:** [www.monroecountyemcomm.org](http://www.monroecountyemcomm.org)

### Severe Weather Alerts:

Winter brings severe weather in the form of heavy snow and strong winds. If you experience severe weather, especially when accompanied by damage to property in your area, listen to your local ARES/RACES repeaters for information. While official ARES/RACES activation could be a possibility, it is more important that we open a spontaneous net simply to share information about weather conditions in your immediate area. Don't wait for someone else to do it. Pick up the microphone and start a net. Have each check-in station give you a situational awareness report and emergency power report. If you don't have a copy of the directed net protocol, you can find one at the WEB address listed above. (Activities/ARES Net/ Net Script/ Downloads)

**NBEMS:** Want to learn about Narrow Band Emergency Messaging System (NBEMS)? It's the latest and easiest way to "Go Digital!" Bring your laptop computer and 2-M handheld transceiver. We will conduct an NBEMS clinic after every meeting through June 2016.

## ROCHESTER RADIO REPEATER ASSOCIATION, RRRRA

The RRRRA will be on summer hiatus during July and August. The Rochester Radio Repeater Association, RRRRA invites you to attend its September 16th 2016 meeting. Meetings are held on the 3rd Friday of the month in the Pittsford Town Hall Basement starting at 7:30 pm.

The RRRRA officers are Bob Shewell, N2HJD President, Bob Odell, N2BZX Vice President, ED Wilkonski, KC2WM Secretary, and Joel Rossbach, N2EZV Treasurer.

RRRA also accepts donations to the club. If you are not currently a member and want to support RRRRA, you can join at our monthly meeting or on our web site [www.k2rra.org](http://www.k2rra.org)

I hope to see everybody there on the 15th. Bob O'Dell, N2BZX, Vice President

## ROCHESTER VHF GROUP

The Rochester VHF Group holds monthly meetings on the second Friday of the month between September and June. Meetings begin at 7:30 PM and are held at the Spencerport Wesleyan Church, 2653 Nichols St. (NY Route 31) in Spencerport. Visit our website [www.rvhfg.org](http://www.rvhfg.org) for details.

The Rochester VHF Group sponsors an informal On-Air Net every Monday at 2100 local time on 144.260 MHz USB and a 6 Meter Net every Thursday at 2100 local on 50.200 MHz USB.

More club information can be found by visiting [www.rvhfg.org](http://www.rvhfg.org) or just calling in any Monday or Thursday night. All are welcome to check in to these nets.

## ROCHESTER DX ASSOCIATION, RDXA

It's no surprise that June means **Field Day** for RDXA.

**Webster Park**, due south of the Campgrounds at 999 Lake Road, will again be the RDXA operating site. **W2RDX** will field 3 main HF stations, the **K2TER** VHF super-Rover, and an **open-to-all** "GOTA" HF station. *The Get On The Air* station will feature a Yaesu FT-1000 Mark V with a TA-33 tri-bander and an 80/40 Bazooka antenna.



We encourage anyone interested in seeing a nationally ranked, 4-time #1 in class station in operation, plus the chance to actually add some contacts to the score on VHF or GOTA, to come by and check it out! Want more? Come and help! Dates are Sat & Sun, June 25 & 26. For info/questions of any sort: [k1py@frontiernet.net](mailto:k1py@frontiernet.net)

## XRX AMATEUR RADIO CLUB

The XRX Amateur Radio Club is having no formal meetings in July or August. Our next meeting will be 6 PM on September 8, 2016 at the Webster Recreation Center. Stay up-to-date at <http://xarc.us>

## SQUAW ISLAND AMATEUR RADIO CLUB, SIARC

The Squaw Island Amateur Radio Club (SIARC) meets every second Wednesday of the month at 7:30PM at the Ontario County Safety Training Facility, 2914 County Road 48, Town of Hopewell. We have License Exam Testing every other month which begins at 6:30PM. The July meeting will be on Wednesday, July 13th. There will be VE testing beginning at 6:30PM.

73's Steve Benton VP SIARC WB2VMR

## AMATEUR RADIO ASSOCIATION OF THE SOUTHERN TIER

ARAST meets the third Thursday of every month at the Town & Country Fire house in Horseheads. C-CARES meets the first Tuesday of the month except February. C-CARES covers the entire area in Chemung , Schuyler and Steuben Counties and everyone is welcome.

There are a lot of things coming up soon Including the September hamfest and the Wineglass marathon in October. The Wineglass has finished its enrolling of runners so we expect a large group of runners for 2016 (over 3600) . Help is always needed for the wineglass and the southern tier in the fall is always a good day trip around that time of year . If you wish to help out with the Wineglass just drop an email to [emergencycoordinator@arast.org](mailto:emergencycoordinator@arast.org) We could use as many communicators as possible.

Don't forget to mark your calenders for the hamfest September 24, 2016 located at the Chemung County Fairgrounds in Horseheads , NY. Presale tickets now available from any board member.

## COMMUNITY AMATEUR RADIO CLUB, CARC

Orleans County Sheriff Bower is expected to be at our July meeting and share how hams can help his staff through the summer and all the events going on in the many towns. He was impressed by our activities in support of the Albion Strawberry Festival on June 11, 2016. Join us at our meetings in the Hoag Library (134 S. Main St. Albion, NY) on the first Saturday of each month at 7pm. Each meeting has a brief training/refresher period with upcoming topics including: net protocol, repeater set-up/maintenance, and digital signaling. The club holds a net every Sunday evening at 8pm (winter) and 9pm (summer) - 0100 UTC Monday - on 147.585 simplex, and we host the Thursday Night Social Net, Thursday at 8:30pm on 442.875+ (141.3) and EchoLink node 603973. We'd love to hear you check-in! Take a look at the club website for more info: [www.k2srv.org](http://www.k2srv.org)

## DIGITAL COMMUNICATIONS ASSOCIATION OF PERINTON, DCAP

DCAP members continue to experiment with leading edge digital communications modes. We were formed in 1994 to foster the development of local and regional packet radio networks using AX25 and TCP/IP. Today we have members using the club sponsored DSTAR repeater (KB2VZS on 444.8MHz), several personal and public [DSTAR hotspots](#) (using the dvrptr board), Yaesu fusion systems on non-club repeaters and DMR. The last mode is being enjoyed locally through a [DV-Mega-Raspberry PI](#) combination. DCAP meets for breakfast at 7am nearly every Saturday morning at [Rikki's Family Restaurant](#) in Fairport and everyone is welcome to join us. Talk in is on the KB2VZS analog repeater on 146.715MHz with a PL of 110.9 Hz.

## INTERLOCK ROCHESTER - K2HAX - ROCHESTER'S HACKERSPACE

Here's some of our events for the month of July:

- Friday, July 1, 7pm: **Rochester 2600** - <http://www.rochester2600.com/>
- Tuesday, July 5, 7pm: **Member Meeting & Presentations**, open to the public.
- Friday, July 8, 7pm: **Wireless Meetup** - <http://meetu.ps/2Y59Wy>
- Friday, July 15, 7pm: **TOOOL Rochester Meetup** - <http://tooolroc.org/>
- Saturday, July 16, 12pm to 4pm: **Linux Workshop**
- Saturday, July 23, 2pm: **AdaSpace Open Hack Saturday** - <http://adaspace.org/>

**Interlock Rochester is open every Tuesday night at 7pm.** We're in the Hungerford Building (1115 East Main Street, Rochester NY), just north of Village Gate. Come to Door #7 (next to Comics Etc) and buzz Suite 200. Want to know more? Visit our website at <http://www.interlockroc.org/>, contact us at [info@interlockroc.org](mailto:info@interlockroc.org), or find us in [#interlock](#) on Freenode IRC.

## Genesee Valley Amateur Radio Association

Upcoming Events:

June 25th & 26th - Field Day Event. Location to be announced.

## HAMFESTS

### RAGS 2016 Hamfest

Sunday July 10, 2016  
American Legion Post 787  
5575 Legionaire Drive  
Cicero, NY

<http://www.ragsclub.org>

### Batavia Hamfest

Saturday July 16, 2016  
Alexander Firemen Grounds  
10708 Alexander Rd. Route 98  
Alexander, NY 14005

[MAP](#)

### Ithaca Hamfest

August 6, 2016  
Trumansburg, NY

<http://tcara-ny.org/hamfest/>

### KLARA Hamfest & Campout

August 8, 2016  
Hornell, NY

<http://klara.us>



# THE AMATEUR'S CODE

Originally written by Paul M. Segal, W9EEA (1928)

## THE RADIO AMATEUR IS:

- CONSIDERATE** Never knowingly operating in such a way as to lessen the pleasure of others.
- LOYAL** Offering loyalty, encouragement and support to other amateurs, local club, and the American Radio Relay League, through which Amateur Radio in the United States is represented nationally and internationally.
- PROGRESSIVE** With knowledge abreast of science, a well built and efficient station and operation beyond reproach.
- FRIENDLY** With slow and patient operation when requested, friendly advice and counsel to the beginner, kindly assistance, co-operation and consideration for the interests of others. These are the hallmarks of the amateur spirit.
- BALANCED** Radio is an avocation, never interfering with duties owed to family, job, school or community.
- PATRIOTIC** With station and skill always ready for service to country and community.

## VISIT THE RARA WEBSITE!

Did you know that your club's website ([www.rochesterham.org](http://www.rochesterham.org)) offers these features and more?

- Photos of meetings & events (you might be in there!)
- Info on upcoming meetings/programs
- Rochester Hamfest information!
- Online membership & renewal
- Track and redeem your Reward Points
- Public service info & sign-up
- VE testing info
- Back issues of the RAG in PDF
- Officer contact
- List of past presidents
- Online membership directory
- Order RARA logo products
- Useful Internet links
- Ham Radio 101 – tons of tutorial info, plus net & repeater listings



# RARA MARKETPLACE

Your commercial ad could be here! The RARA RAG can help spread the word on your business at very reasonable rates.

Contact us for details at [editor@rochesterham.org](mailto:editor@rochesterham.org).



## PROMOTE YOUR BUSINESS WITH RAG ADVERTISING

Ad size and cost:

Business Card	- 2 x 3.5	\$140
Quarter Page	- 4.2 x 3.5	\$300
	- 2 x 7.3	\$300
Half Page	- 4.2 x 7.3	\$600
	- 8.6 x 3.5	\$600

The above prices are **per year** - not per month as is typical in other publications.

Your advertisement will be seen by amateurs in Rochester, Monroe County, New York State, the United States and even the rest of the world. RAG circulation is approx. 8,000.

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# RARA MARKETPLACE

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# RARA OFFICERS

## OFFICERS

<b>President:</b> William Mullaney, KC2VSJ	(585) 749-7363	<a href="mailto:kc2vsj@arrl.net">kc2vsj@arrl.net</a>
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<b>Treasurer:</b> Betsy Tascione, KD2DYU	(585) 458-6546	<a href="mailto:kd2dyu@rochester.rr.com">kd2dyu@rochester.rr.com</a>
<b>Secretary:</b> Forest Shick, WA2MZG	(585) 721-1653	<a href="mailto:wa2mzg@arrl.net">wa2mzg@arrl.net</a>

## BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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## AUGUST RAG DEADLINE

JULY 15, 2016



RARA meets at 7PM on the  
first Friday of each month;  
come join us at:

Seneca Waterways Council, BSA Headquarters  
2320 Brighton Henrietta Town Line Rd  
Rochester, New York 14623

[Get Directions](#)

[Rochester Area Repeater Listing](#)

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