



PCARA Update



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Field Day forever

PCARA held Field Day 2012 activities at Walter Panas High School in Cortlandt Manor, NY on the weekend of June 23-24. As Field Days go, this was a relatively stress-free, and enjoyable event.



Everything seemed to go quite efficiently. We were able to set-up in record time and get everything running

smoothly well before the 2:00 pm start. Joe, WA2MCR used his casting prowess to get lines up into the trees and light poles, while Malcolm, NM9J got the wireless computer network humming in short order. Bob, N2CBH lent us use of his pickup truck, brought the life-giving coffee maker, and provided his engineering expertise. We received further help and support from PCARA members Ray, W2CH, Marylyn, KC2NKU, Nathan, AB2ZU, Lovji, N2CKD, and Ken, W1YJ.



Field Day 2012 operations underway. [Pic by W2CH]

ated encouragement and support.

Tear-down was accomplished in about an hour, at the end of which Bob, N2CBH's pickup was well packed with gear, and another successful PCARA Field Day was in the books. Thanks to all who participated and made it a such a success!

Our next regularly scheduled meeting will be Sunday September 9, 2012 at 3:00 pm at Hudson Valley Hospital Center in Cortlandt Manor, NY. I look forward to seeing each of you there. Until then, **have a great summer!**

- 73 de Greg, KB2CQE



There was good attendance at Field Day 2012. Joe WA2MCR and Ray W2CH are shown operating.

On the official Field Day front, ARRL Hudson Division Section Managers Pete Cecere, N2YJZ (ENY) and Mike Lisenco, N2YBB (NYC-LI) visited us during Saturday morning set up. They provided most appreci-

PCARA Officers

President:

Greg Appleyard, KB2CQE, kb2cq at arrl.net

Vice President:

Joe Calabrese, WA2MCR; wa2mcr at arrl.net

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Adventures in DXing

– N2KZ

Broken Plans

The best laid schemes of mice and men go often awry. Scot poet Robert Burns had it right centuries ago. Life is unpredictable. Your morning prophecies of the day's events rarely come true. Field Day 2012 was



Of Mice and Field Day...

no exception for this humble ham. I have not been able to attend since about 1921, so I started early. Determined to be there, I made an employee time-off request even before 2011 had ended. *I need to be off Saturday, June 23 and Sunday, June 24.* Let me re-state

that request. *I have to be off...* Poor, pitiful me. I was not meant to be.

It is very hard to juggle the life of being an active ham with the life of being an active Dad. These are both three-letter jobs I really enjoy. It's just so hard to be both! The weekend of the ARRL VHF Contest, Saturday and Sunday June 9th and 10th, was a harbinger to the future. My passion for six meters is legendary. My QRP quest for a VUCC award is second only to finding the Holy Grail. Yet, my daughter was taking her college board exams, family was coming to visit over the weekend and my other daughter was in a play with a big role. Needless to say, my air time was quite limited.

My Field Day plans began to cave in about a month before the event. The more I discovered about my fate, the more the ham radio part of me was crestfallen. Saturday was the day of a big graduation party for the eldest son of very good friends of ours and one of my daughters was going to a big birthday party in Manhattan and needed transportation to and fro. Something else was supposed to start at 2 pm that afternoon. I think it had to do with launching antennas into trees and starting up generators, but I've forgotten what that is!

Sunday was entirely dominated by a singular challenge. My purpose in life on June 24 was to complete a round-trip to a deep-woods summer camp near Lake Placid in the Adirondacks. First, I thought I had to make the trip with just one car. Then, close friends thought they could drive my daughter and

nephew up along with them. They have a cottage quite close to the camp and it would be no problem. Great! I think. Maybe I could operate on Sunday! Disaster hits. The Mom who volunteered to drive up slipped in the town's swimming pool and broke her wrist. She can't drive. Could my wife drive up their mini-van instead?



Cottage by the lake.

June 24th had matured into a two-car event. My wife would be driving the big mini-van with our injured friend and I'd be driving all the kids up, right behind, in our Prius. It was about a 14 hour, thankfully uneventful, round-trip sojourn with a majority of driving being logged on insanely fast super-highways. Side note: I had no idea that the I-87 Northway, between Albany and Montreal, required the driving skills necessary for the German Autobahn. Although the speed limit is set for 65 mph, you'd better hide in the right lane if you are doing less than 80 mph! Whoa!

Instead of logging a lot of QSOs, I logged lots of mileage: 526 miles to be exact. I got to see the Hudson River way upstream as a small river of rapids. The mountains were so dense and green and majestic. I even saw a sign while passing through a little town: *Free! Ham radio. All weekend!* with an arrow pointing up to a parking lot. Can I let out a small wimper now? I have nothing to complain about. Everyone arrived safe at camp. We got home OK and we even had a couple of nice meals on the road. Maybe next year!

Open My Windows

I love music and I love radio. I also love to bring these things to my headphones via an Apple iPod. Every iPod requires a mothership and most of us use Apple or PC computers as a home base. My primary laptop computer is a Dell Inspiron 1525 purchased around 2007. Heaven help me, it was delivered not with Windows XP, but with the now-dreaded Windows Vista operating system. Vista has become synonymous with anxiety. It was so ambitious, so complex and so undeveloped! I have limped



Windows Vista™

along with it ever since. I'm good at limping. I've had lots of practice! I broke my leg skiing!

Last year, its hard drive spun out and died. I slowly rebuilt it. Months ago, a nasty virus took it down and I resigned myself in frustration. The laptop was retired and I resorted to an older machine for the basics of surfing and e-mail and not much else. My iPod went silent and uncharged and collected a lot of dust. So sad.

After weeks and months of self-therapy concerning my loss, I finally found myself ready to try again. I gathered all my CD discs containing my operating system, my accessory drivers, my program discs and all my notes from past re-builds. One thing would be different this time. Instead of relying on free-ware virus protection, I would try America's favorite: Norton Antivirus 2012. This should be easy...right? Hah!

At first, I thought, I'd try to be tricky. I would utilize the Windows XP operating system that came with my older computers and load it onto this laptop. Not today, I discovered. The OEM disks were very specifically keyed to the machines they were intended for and nothing else! In resignation, I reverted to the Windows Vista discs and put my head down into the snow. After a lot of patient waiting through loading time, digging for just the necessary peripheral accessory drivers and finessing some settings, I felt I was ready for action. I went to the Norton site for a download and away I went. It shouldn't be long now!

Sometimes a pause is not a good thing. The Norton installation halted due to a claim that I was using an unsupported operating system. After a little on-line research, I found that Norton will only embrace those who are using Vista — and — who have made the leap to the Service Pack 2 upgrade. A rugged road followed. I first went to Windows Update and loaded

up 105 necessary fix files before I could become eligible to install the pre-requisite

**You are now protected by Norton.
Power. Speed. Security.**

Service Pack 1. Away we went and I set aside the laptop as it went through the bizillion processes needed to make this so.

I downloaded the multi-megabyte Service Pack 1 and waited another eternity hoping for success. A couple of hours later, bad news crossed my eyes. The Service Pack 1 installation had failed. Microsoft led me to now defer to their KB947821 System Update Readiness Tool (oh joy!) My problem was revealed! My laptop sports 4 GB of RAM. Vista SP1 supports only 2 GB of RAM. No problem! Upon Microsoft's suggestion, simply open up your computer and remove a RAM chip. OK! Fine! (This relationship was beginning to need some work.) Then the black brick power supply for the laptop died. Is this an omen? Thank-

fully, I had a second supply as a backup – a welcome addition to my collection of electronic artifacts! Our adventure continued!

"Not so fast," the laptop said. I first had to deal with troublesome hotfix KB929777 by installing Active X. Upon reboot, the Windows Update application immediately suggested another try installing Service Pack 1. I went out to dinner and came home to good news! It worked. Now all I had to do was to install another 68 more updates and a few more before I'd be eligible for Service Pack 2. But wait! Upon starting my SP2 upgrade, I received a message that left me laughing out loud. If I wanted to load SP2, I needed to update Windows Update! Stop! This is getting really silly. March on, I did.

Now with Update updated, slowly but surely, my processors and hard drive purred away for more endless hours and Service Pack 2 was mine. Hooray! I then followed-through and installed 48 SP2 updates and had made it to the end of my uphill journey. There were no further updates to be had. I was ready for Norton. Anti-virus protected, I now venture into the world of loading all my program file applications. Wish me luck!

I want to thank all of you for reading the past few paragraphs. This was written as a public service to all of you who have been there before and all of you who may go there in the future. We need to exchange our compassion and sympathy. Just think,



I do computer troubleshooting for a living! My only thought, in retrospect, is a simple one. Why must all of this be so complicated? Why are we given so many choices, any of which can be singly mis-set and end our day? The biggest challenge may be to find a standard of simplicity. We all like to dream.

Enjoy your summer and get on the air! I'm waiting to work you! Until September, 73s and dit dit de N2KZ The Old Goat.



Field Day 2012

Preparations for ARRL Field Day began at the July PCARA meeting with a discussion of who would do what, when and where. As the important weekend approached, various essentials began falling into place. Joe, WA2MCR and NM9J prepared the logging computers. Joe obtained permission from the Lakeland School District for weekend operation at Walter Panas High School. Greg KB2CQE went on a site reconnoiter and composed a publicity release for distribution to the local media.

We also received a few setbacks. One member had to work over the weekend, despite making schedule adjustments months before. Another was traveling during Field Day week and could not help with the antenna preparations.

Joe, Greg and Malcolm were up early on Saturday morning to load Bob, N2CBH's truck with equipment. The day before had seen torrential rain, but Saturday began bright, warm and sunny. Driving over to Walter Panas High School, more members and friends arrived to assist with set-up, including Nathan AB2ZU, Dan NT2I with Elliot KC2ZAB, Ray W2CH plus Marylyn KC2NKU and Lovji N2CKD.



Joe WA2MCR reels in a support rope for the wire antennas.

10 meters. Following last year's success with feeding one of the lighting masts, we repeated the arrangement, connecting the inner conductor of the coaxial cable to a vertical light pole and the outer conductor to a ground spike with a set of ground plane wires laid across the grass. Recent rain had left the ground damp and easy to drive spikes into. The final antenna to be

raised was the 3-element Yagi for 6 meters.

During this antenna work, two distinguished visitors representing ARRL arrived at the site to check on progress and encourage our efforts. Peter N2YJZ is ARRL's Section Manager for East New York (ENY), while Mike N2YBB is Section

Manager for New York - Long Island (NLI). Plans for their day included subsequent visits to our neighbors in PEARL and QSY Society.

After the antennas were in place, our two HF stations and the "free" VHF station were assembled underneath the push-up tents. Equipment in use included Joe's Icom IC-7000 and Yaesu FT-920 plus the IC-706MkIIIG from NM9J.

The Field Day logging software was N3FJP's Field Day Network Log v2.6, — see <http://www.n3fjp.com> for details. This latest version has better support for wide screens and Windows 7 — then, when we actually worked N3FJP on 40 meters, the software encouraged us to say hello to its maker!

In 2011, we had run into problems with an unreliable router for the wired network connections between the three logging computers. This time we had a new Netgear N150 wireless router, which connected everything together with ease and without any long Ethernet cables.

As dusk settled over the site on Saturday evening, the tent lights were turned on and we noticed that voltage from the Coleman Pulse 1850 generator was sagging under load. It sagged even more while CW was in use. The fix was to substitute a Honda



Helping to raise the 6 meter Yagi are Nathan AB2ZU, Marylyn KC2NKU, Ray W2CH, Lovji N2CKD and Greg KB2CQE.



Netgear wireless router provided a reliable connection between logging computers and our central 'server'.

EU2000i, which sips gasoline and purrs along as quietly as a kitten, while the built-in inverter generates a steady 120 volts AC.



Night scene, with Field Day tents illuminated by 120 volts AC from the portable generator.

During Field Day 2012, we had a quite a few youngsters operating, which is good for points! Dan, NT2I brought along both Elliot KC2XAB and Evan, who kept 15 and 20 meters busy. Chip KC2OSC was accompanied by Penelope who also spent time on the HF bands.



Youth participation, with Dan NT2I keeping an eye on Evan and Elliot KC2ZAB, operating 15 and 20 meters.

Since solar max was approaching, two brand new W3NQN bandpass filters for 10 and 15 meters were in use. These do a great job of preventing strong signals and broadband noise from one HF station affecting the other stations operating nearby. There was increased activity on 15

meters this year, but less on 10 meters.

The “free” VHF station that Class 2A entitles us to began with Joe’s FT-920 transceiver and the 3-element Yagi. Contacts were made with many local stations on 6 meters, but there was no sign of an opening during this Field Day. Joe’s transceiver had problems with its VFO dial on Sunday, so Ray substituted his Yaesu FT-857 transceiver.

Despite heavy rain just before and just after Field Day weekend, the site stayed dry, with warm, sunny weather on Saturday and Sunday. Saturday night was cooler, so a few extra layers of clothing kept our



Joe WA2MCR operates the HF bands from 80-15 meters, aided by W3NQN bandpass filters (red labels) overnight crew — Joe and Greg — in a good mood, while Bob accumulated points on 80 meters.

Before too long, 2:00 pm on Sunday had arrived and it was time to switch off and break down the stations. This was accomplished in less than an hour, and Bob’s truck took the heavy equipment back home.



Greg KB2CQE operates the ‘free’ VHF station on 6 meters.

Thanks to everyone who made this year’s PCARA Field Day a success. As well as those already listed, we should mention Kevin N2KZE, George N2LJO and Ken W1YJ who came along to operate and lend support.

Here is a summary of total points claimed along with the scores from previous years.

Peekskill/Cortlandt ARA, W2NYW

	2002	2003	2004	2005	2007	2008	2009	2011	2012
QSOs:	718	733	968	853	1019	1109	694	879	968
Power	2 (<150W)								
Partcpts:	15	11	12	10	14	10	10	14	15
Tot scor:	2,096	2,328	2,996	2,798	2,906	3,460	2,746	2,602	2920

- NM9J

SW receiver comparison - W2CH

I have made some recent short wave receiver acquisitions as well as the Sony ICF-SW7600GR. (Ed. - See *PCARA Update*, May 2011 issue, for a review of the ICF-SW7600GR by N2KZ.)

The Grundig G2 Reporter is about the same price as the Sony receiver, \$150.00. It is a bit smaller than the Tecsun PL-398, which on Amazon and other sites is only about \$65.00.



Grundig G2 Reporter AM/FM/SW receiver with signal strength indicator, MP3 and WMA decoding and recording.

I saw some YouTube videos about the Tecsun PL-398, which has a basic MP3 player on the back of the receiver, but no display of the track playing. It does not record — unlike the Grundig G2 Reporter, which is able to record to a WAV file in its internal 4 GB memory. The MP3 recording with the Grundig G2 Reporter is only at 40 kbps, while the WAV recording is at 129 kbps which gives pretty good audio quality on playback.

You select “Voice” for playback of WAV files, while MP3 files are played back using the “MP3” selection. The MP3 recording is mainly useful for AM (MW) and SW broadcasts. It is also possible to record with a microphone to the Grundig G2 Reporter. So the MP3 playback on the Tecsun PL-398 is mainly an added feature, while the recording features of the Grundig G2 Reporter are more comprehensive, with a display to see the files.

The Tecsun PL-398 uses regular alkaline batteries, or it can charge Ni-MH batteries, while the Grundig G2 Reporter has a Li-Ion battery that charges through the USB port from a PC. It does not come with a separate charger. The Li-Ion battery charge lasts a pretty good while.

The Grundig G2 Reporter has an FM stereo selector like the Tecsun PL-398, but it has to be chosen everytime one switches to the FM mode. There is also

RDS (Radio Data System) on the Grundig, which is chosen from a menu when you select the FM mode. It has a choice of short text scroll or longer text scroll.



Tecsun PL-398 FM/MW/SW portable receiver with MP3 decoding and DSP receive. [Pics by W2CH]

There is an S-meter on the Grundig G2 Reporter while the Tecsun PL-398 has a switchable meter which shows signal strength numerically, time, or the ambient temperature.

Both receivers have stereo in FM mode, two speakers, with decent audio for their size, a line input and headphone output. There is a manual-step volume control on the Tecsun PL-398, while the Grundig G2 Reporter has a digital-adjusted volume control. Playback on the Tecsun PL-398 is from an SD card placed on the rear, for access, while the MP3 external playback on the Grundig G2 Reporter is a Micro SD card slot on the bottom of the receiver. The G2 does not allow recording from the receiver to the Micro SD card, only to the internal 4GB memory, as mentioned previously.

When the Grundig G2 Reporter is linked by USB cable to a PC, you can see the recorded files and they can be edited.

The AM (MW), FM, and SW bands have similar coverage and sensitivity. These radios cannot receive weak AM (MW) signals as well as the Sony ICF-SW7600GR, but they are pretty good for their class. There are provisions for an external AM (MW) and SW antenna on the Tecsun PL-398, but not on the Grundig G2 Reporter, unless one clips an external antenna to the built in extendable rod-whip antenna.

Each receiver has its pluses and minuses. The big difference is in the price and built-in features. The Grundig G2 Reporter is a bit smaller than the Tecsun PL-398, but they are similar in their footprint and weight. There is no SSB/CW or synchronous detection in either receiver, as in the Sony ICF-SW7600GR.

For the price of the Grundig G2 Reporter, the Sony ICF-SW7600GR is the better choice as a communications receiver. The Tecsun PL-398 is a less expensive choice, but with no recording, and only a playback feature.

- Ray, W2CH

'No' anniversary

Last month, in June's *PCARA Update*, I mentioned that the James Bond movies are about to celebrate their first 50 years. I recommended viewing the movie *Goldfinger* on Blu-ray so you could see the important role played by a Pye Cambridge VHF transceiver, just before *Goldfinger's* assistant Jill Masterson, portrayed by Shirley Eaton, meets her end, covered in gold. (One of our readers suggested that I should prepare a follow up article describing the attributes of actress Shirley Eaton, as this was bound to be much more interesting! Sorry.)

Digital restoration of the Bond movies for DVD and Blu-ray by Lowry Digital adds a great deal to the original movies. Lowry was allowed to scan the original camera negatives, so detail is present in the Blu-ray version that might not even have been visible on the big screen of a cinema when the films were first distributed.

'No' Gold

A key Bond movie that I would recommend viewing on Blu-ray is the series opener *Dr. No*, which had its worldwide premiere 50 years ago in London on October 5, 1962. The movie tells how unusual events on the island of Jamaica, in the Caribbean, result in British secret agent James Bond being dispatched by his superior, "M" to investigate the disappearance of another agent. Bond, played by Sean Connery for the first time, is told that "Jamaica went off the air tonight" and is asked to see if the lost agent's disappearance is connected with U.S. inquiries about massive interference to their Cape Canaveral rockets.

Radio appears early in the movie. After John Strangways, Chief of the British Secret Service's Caribbean station is murdered outside the Queen's Club in Kingstown, we see his new secretary Mary Trueblood preparing for the daily call from London. She opens a false bookcase cover, revealing a short



Strangways' secretary Mary prepares the HF radio equipment for the daily call from London.

wave transmitter and receiver, with a morse key fastened to the fold-down shelf.

Mary — played by Dolores Keaton — powers up the transmitter, switches from "receive" to "send", resulting in a loud humming noise, and speaks into the headset microphone: "W6N, W6N, W6N calling G7W, how do you hear me, over?" Changing back to "receive" she hears from the receiver: "G7W London, G7W London, receiving you, over." Strangely, while still receiving, Mary is adjusting the "PA Tune" knob on the transmitter, with an accompanying shift in the atmospherics.

Mary switches from "receive" to "send" and says: "Standby to transmit, wait out." She has a worried look on her face as she glances at her watch. Is she concerned that her boss is late, or is she getting confused about her radio operating procedure? (G7W has the correct prefix for a station in UK, but W6N is certainly not correct for Jamaica — the prefix should have been **VP** before independence and **6Y** after independence in 1962.)

But Mary had good reason to be concerned, because moments later, the three assassins who had just murdered her boss surround the radio room and shoot Mary. They ignore the operating transmitter and instead take away two folders from the filing cabinet, labeled "Crab Key" and Dr. No", along with Mary's body.



HF equipment in Strangways' office included a K.W. Vanguard transmitter and an Eddystone receiver.

A closer look

The Blu-ray images show that the short wave transmitter used by Mary to communicate with London is a K.W. "Vanguard", manufactured by K.W. Electronics of Dartford, Kent. The K.W. Vanguard was an amateur band transmitter, and its P.A. Band switch is clearly set to 20 meters, while the VFO dial shows a frequency of 14.255 MHz. The mode switch is set to "Phone". Rather worryingly, the VFO band switch under the Geloso VFO dial is not set to any of the five choices "80 - 40 - 20 - 15 - 10" but is pointing to an unlabeled position, diagonally opposite 10 meters.

Another worry is that the “Tune” / “Normal” switch, intended for netting the transmitter’s VFO to the receiver’s frequency is still in the “Tune” position.

K.W. Electronics was a UK company founded in 1950 by Rowland (Rowley) Shears, G8KW, with manufacturing carried out at Vanguard Works in Dartford, Kent. During the 1950s-70s, K.W. Electronics was the leading manufacturer of amateur radio equipment in the U.K., with famous models such as the K.W. Vanguard, Viceroy, Vespa and (best known) the KW2000 SSB transceiver. I still have a KW107 Antenna Tuning System in use to this day.

The K.W. Vanguard was an AM/CW transmitter



K.W. Vanguard amateur bands transmitter.

dating from 1958, covering 80 to 10 meters, with an Italian Geloso “Signal Shifter” 4/102 VFO. The power amplifier was a single 6146 (QV06-20) tube, modulated by a pair of 6L6s. Power output was 25-30 watts. Frequency stability from the Geloso VFO was not very good. I had some experience with this VFO design in an outboard “Geloso Converter”, which I used in my early HF days with a Marconi CR100 receiver. The point that sticks in my mind was trying to clean the Geloso converter’s multi-position rotary switch, used for band selection. The polystyrene insulators dissolved in my carbon tetrachloride-based switch cleaner! Fortunately, the Geloso factory in Italy sent me replacement parts.

If you watch the movie very carefully, you will see a *second* KW Vanguard transmitter on the boat that takes Professor Dent out to the island of Dr. No. Those Vanguards were popular in Jamaica!



There is another K.W. Vanguard transmitter mounted inside this boat, belonging to Dr. No.

No stone unturned

Careful examination of the Blu-ray version reveals that the short wave receiver used by Mary just before her unfortunate demise



Eddystone 840A communications receiver.

was an Eddystone 840A. The name is just visible within the tuning dial on one of the frames, and the multi-color waveband markings seen on the Eddystone tuning scale were a characteristic of this model.

Eddystone Radios were first made in the 1920s at the Birmingham factory of Stratton & Co in England. The Eddystone 840A was a lower end AM/CW communications receiver dating from 1954, covering 480 kHz to 30 MHz in four bands, with a power supply for 110-230 V AC/DC.

No contact

In the movie, the scene now shifts from Jamaica to London. After a view of the skyline, we see the Secret Service radio room, where a row of operators is communicating with agents around the world.



The London radio operator loses contact with Kingston, Jamaica and alerts his superior

While one of the operators is pounding a morse key, we hear on the sound track the *spoken* words: “Hello W6N report my signals, report my signals, over.” The operator calls the foreman of signals and reports that “W6N Kingston, Jamaica, broken contact sir, just after they came up on routine transmission.” “Broken or faded?” he is asked. “Broken, carrier wave is still established.”

The studio scene is quite impressive, showing six radio operators side-by-side in a row of cubicles,

separated by glass screens. Each operator has two short wave receivers in front of his or her operating position, with morse keys visible on the bench.

The receivers are **Racal RA-17** models and look quite realistic. On the Blu-ray commentary, production buyer Ron Quelch explains that he contacted Racal Electronics at Bracknell in Berkshire. Racal agreed to



Racal RA-17 receiver

loan twelve receivers destined for the New Delhi airport, provided the studio would pay for re-testing the equipment after it was returned to Racal.

The Racal RA-17 was a very important receiver in the history of Racal Electronics. The company was founded in 1950 by Raymond (Ray) Brown and George Calder (Cal) Cunningham, and named after their shortened nicknames. Racal was hoping to manufacture the Collins 51-J HF receiver in the UK but Collins would not grant a license. Instead, Racal joined forces with South African engineer Dr. Trevor Wadley and began work in 1954 on an elegant frequency control design that used a 1MHz frequency standard and a drift-canceling arrangement that allowed the free-running VFO to change frequency without overall detriment.

Clearly visible in the Blu-ray version of *Dr. No* are the twin tuning knobs of the RA-17 and the triangular-shaped tuning dial.



Racal RA-17 dial tuned to 14.294 Mc/s

The right-hand tuning knob labeled “Megacycles” sets the main frequency range, from 0 to 29 MHz, indicated in the bottom corner of the dial. The left-hand “Kilo-cycles” knob carries out precise tuning across each 1 MHz-wide band, with frequency indicated on the upper part of the dial by a

6-foot long piece of 35mm film, back-lit and marked directly in kilohertz divisions. The manual claims an “effective dial length of 145 feet.”

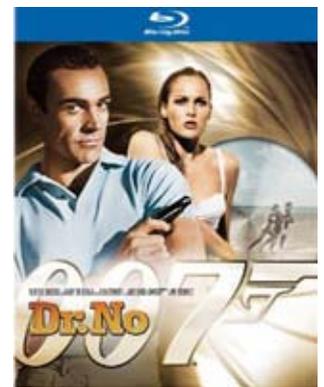
The RA17 was in production from approx 1957 to 1973 and saved the fortunes of Racal. It was sold to military and government agencies around the world and gained an impressive reputation. I can remember seeing one attached to a spectrometer in the Cambridge Chemistry labs in the late 1960s. The RA-17 was based on vacuum tube technology, but as semiconductor capabilities improved, the Wadley loop was also incorporated into the portable Barlow-Wadley XCR-30 in 1972-3, followed by the famous Yaesu FRG-7 (“Frog 7”) receiver in 1976-7. I still have an FRG-7, used for general coverage monitoring in the UK, at a time when tuning 0.1- 30 MHz with 1 kHz accuracy was quite an achievement.



Yaesu FRG-7 communications receiver from 1977 also employed the Wadley loop for frequency control.

No time to waste

The scenes I have described are at the very beginning of the movie. If you have not watched *Dr. No* for a while, then take my advice and buy a copy of the Blu-ray version. Even though it was the very first James Bond outing, and the crew were still feeling their way toward the successful format of the later, spectacular films, this 1962 movie still holds up remarkably well. The pace is rapid, with vivid location work. And to keep our ‘Shirley Eaton’ correspondent satisfied, there is also the scene where Ursula Andress rises from the waves of the Caribbean in a white bikini to make 007’s quest a little more interesting.



- NM9J

Peekskill / Cortlandt Amateur Radio Association

Mail: PCARA, PO Box 146, Crompond, NY 10517

E-Mail: w2nyw@arrl.net

Web site: <http://www.pcara.org>

PCARA Update Editor: Malcolm Pritchard, NM9J

E-mail: NM9J @ arrl.net

Newsletter contributions are always very welcome!

Archive: <http://home.computer.net/~pcara/newslett.htm>

PCARA Information

PCARA is a **Non-Profit Community Service**

Organization. PCARA meetings take place the first Sunday of each month* at 3:00 p.m. in Dining Room B of the Hudson Valley Hospital Center, Route 202, Cortlandt Manor, NY 10567. Drive round behind the main hospital building and enter from the rear (look for the oxygen tanks). Talk-in is available on the 146.67 repeater. *Apart from holidays.

PCARA Repeaters

W2NYW: 146.67 MHz -0.6, PL 156.7Hz

KB2CQE: 449.925MHz -5.0, PL 179.9Hz

N2CBH: 448.725MHz -5.0, PL 107.2Hz

PCARA Calendar

Summer break: July-August.

Sun Sept 9: PCARA monthly meeting, Hudson Valley Hospital Center, 3:00 p.m.

Hamfests

Sun July 15: Sussex County ARC Hamfest, Sussex Co Fairgrounds, 37 Plains Rd, Augusta NJ. 8:00 am.

Sat Aug 11: Boy Scout Troop 139 / Venture Crew 7373 Hamfest, Conlon Hall, 19 North William Street Bergenfield, NJ. 8:00 am.

Sun Aug 12: Tri State Amateur Radio Association Hamfest, Matamoras Airport Park, 7th Street, Matamoras PA. 8:00 am.

Sun Sept 9: Candlewood ARA Western CT Hamfest, Edmond Town Hall, 45 Main St (Rt 6), Newtown CT. 8:30 am.

VE Test Sessions

Jul 1: Yonkers ARC, Yonkers PD, Grassy Sprain Rd, Yonkers, NY. 8:30 am Contact Dan Calabrese, 914 667-0587

Jul 12: WECA, Westchester Co Fire Trg Center, 4 Dana Rd., Valhalla, NY. 7:00 p.m. S. Rothman, 914 831-3258.



Peekskill / Cortlandt Amateur Radio Association Inc.
PO Box 146
Crompond, NY 10517