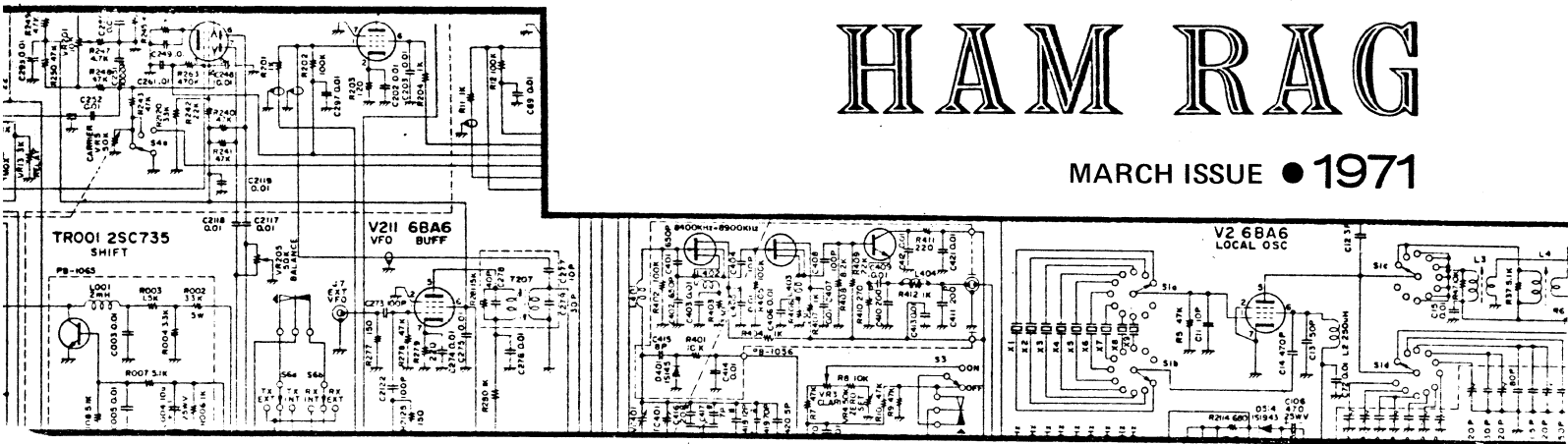


HAM RAG

MARCH ISSUE • 1971



de K9PAK

This has been a busy month for ham radio in the Rockford area. The rapid influx of flood waters in the area caused a flurry of activity. W9RGU was manned at the Red Cross starting Saturday, February 20, by W9MAP and K9RUK. K9QYY and myself moved the CD communications trailer to North Park near the area of worst flooding. Soon others were involved in manning the various posts. Among those also participating were WA9BWK, WA9IYK, K9WMA, K9PZZ, W9FX, WB9EZY, W9LRZ, K9AMJ, W9HSY, and more. Thanks to everybody. Activities were suspended on Monday, March 1st.

Unfortunately, it takes an emergency for interest to swell. It's too bad local amateurs don't seem to want to participate in emergency public service groups.

Following an emergency, I get comments like "Well, I'm all set with my mobile on such and such a band — why didn't you call on me....I'm willing." Great — we have a willing helper; that's a good start, but we can't chase all over the amateur frequencies to pick up an extra mobile or two.. We have local operating emergency nets on two bands —10 and 2 meters. These are good bands for local communications — relatively interference free, and reliable. Please set up your station with capabilities on one or more of the local frequencies. We can use your help.

By the way, the ten meter net is going strong. A typical session recently produced 15 check-ins.

R.A.R.A. OFFICERS

- President.....Dave Barquist, K9PAK, 399-1344
- Vice President.....Mike George, K9ORU, 1-544-2912
- Secretary.....Chuck Derwent, K9SAN, 1-239-2247
- Treasurer..... Jim Nilson, WB9ETH, 877-1517

Mailing address for dues and bills: 4412 Marsh Ave., Rockford 61111

MARCH MEETING FEATURES GUEST SPEAKER

Be sure to attend our March meeting -- FRIDAY, the 12th. Bud Drobish from Hallicrafters is coming to show us a sneak preview of brand new equipment from Hallicrafters that will be interesting to everyone.

A VISIT FROM MARS

We have a very special and interesting program lined up for May. Dave Johnson, who is station director of Fifth Army Headquarters, Fort Sheridan, A9USA, will be here to explain all facets of Army MARS. Mr. Johnson has been with MARS for 14 years and knows just about all there is to know about MARS.

He will be bringing the Communications Van with him which is completely equipped with Collins gear. Anyone interested in joining MARS—HERE IS YOUR CHANCE to have all questions answered. Be sure to leave room for this meeting in your schedule.

MARS is available to all classes of licenses except Novice.

NOVICE CLASS UNDER WAY

The Novice Class is in full swing with sixteen students. Our sincere thanks to Dale, WA9BWK, and other volunteers for teaching the class. Remember to look around the "Shack" and see if you have a receiver or transmitter suitable for Novice use and call Jim, WB9ETH, 877-1517 so we can list your equipment in our Swap Column.

ROCK VALLEY COLLEGE PROPOSITIONS R.A.R.A.

The R.A.R.A. has had an offer from Vito, K9UCM, Professor from Rock Valley College, for the use of their facilities for our classes and also for our meetings. This would mean that we could have use of the college facilities for our monthly meetings. This fall, Rock Valley will be receiving a Ham Station consisting of Collins transmitter and receiver and Henry 2K linear. Also the college could sponsor in cooperation with R.A.R.A. a complete radio course through General Class, which would be taught by staff instructors. Sounds great doesn't it? We want to hear from you members on what your thoughts are on this, so think it over and come to the next meeting to hear more.

The course would include electronic labs which would stress practical aspects of electronics.

LAST ISSUE OF HAM RAG

For those of you who are receiving the Ham Rag but are not paid up members, this is the last one you will be getting. So - SEND IN YOUR \$3.00 - and we will be glad to continue to send you the HAM RAG.

Well, if you didn't know what a repeater was before, you do now if you were at the February meeting. Forty members and guests braved the cold weather and saw the film TULSA STORY, and heard descriptions of the Waukegan, Madison, and Rockford repeaters from their respective trustees. Thanks to the participants who travelled a great distance to be there and especially to Herb, K9AMJ, for bringing equipment to display.

SHORT CIRCUITS

Jim, WB9ETH, finally got his Yaesu equipment on the air, and has had great reports on the 6 meter side band quality. He got +10 over S9 from a Wheaton Station that didn't budge his needle.

How did you weather the ice and wind storm? Gunnie, K9WTS, was seen dangling on the tower beating his antenna with a stick. Knocking the hetrodynes off, Gunnie? Pete, W9LVT, wasn't so lucky, he lost part of one of his elements. Dave, WB9EIE, had a little trouble with one of his elements that got twisted. Bud, WN9CHU, said the ice almost went through his roof when it dropped off his 40 meter beam, but no damage can be found. W9UFH has his tower and quad grounded by the ice and wind.

For you Technicians who wish to check into the Monday evening net, use 146.94 2m. F.M. and soon we will have our 6 meter beam up and will be monitoring 6 meters also.

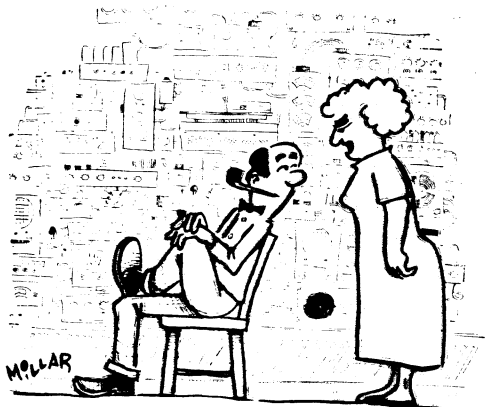
There has been a change in band allocations by the F.C.C., so check the April issue of Q.S.T. for complete and accurate details. The changes were given on the Monday evening A.R.R.L. bulletin.

If you've gotten some new equipment or had a strange thing happen, or contacted a rare one, let Dave, K9PAK or Jim, WB9ETH know about it so we can get it in the Ham Rag.

What do you think about a patch for R.A.R.A. to wear on your hat or shirt or jacket when you go to a ham fest or anywhere for that matter? Let us know your comments on this at the next meeting.

Don't forget Ham Radio needs to promote good public relations so remember this if someone needs help with a phone patch or a contact with a relative or a friend. It's good to help in disasters and problems we had with the ice and water a couple weeks ago, but that is quickly forgotten. Hook up a contact with a mother and a son and they will remember Ham Radio and Hams the rest of their lives.

Ron WA9BLE, wants to know how to put a 40 meter beam with a 1½ mast clamp on a 2" mast.

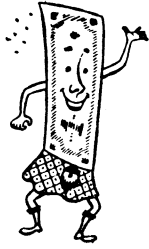


"Why can't you go out nights like other men?"



R.A.R.A. IS A.R.R.L. AFFILIATED

Once again we have renewed our affiliation with the A.R.R.L. This entitles the club to the many benefits including some of the fine films and other programs we have used for past meetings. Also this entitles the club to a 50¢ rebate on every club member who renews his A.R.R.L. membership thru the club. Contact the club treasurer for details.



THE TRADING POST



FOR SALE: Viking Adventurer, like new; Globe VFO, 160 thru 6 meters; Johnson Navy Straight Key; Budd Code Oscillator --- Jack, K9UWN 399-3890

FOR SALE: HQ-110AC receiver, like new in carton; HX-50 Transmitter, SSB, AM, CW, with Novice Crystals, Gonset G-76 AC & DC power, 6 thru 160 transceiver; Hallicrafter SX-99 receiver; Utica 6 meter VFO; --- Mark, WA9GNP
Phone 1-874-2149

FOR SALE: Galaxy 2000 + Linear, \$125 --- Pete, W9LVT 226-1793

FOR SALE: Drake R4A Receiver --- Lloyd, K9KGV 399-4867

WANTED: Tri-Band 3 Element Beam - Will sell Tri Band 2 el. Hygain Quad, Cost \$110 new, Bargain at \$40 --- Erl, WA9WMI 399-9855

QSL CARDS: Ray Johnson, WA9EBY, Art-Way Press.

We have been requested to circulate this copy of a letter by some of the VHF'ers. Please do your part and send a letter to the F.C.C. expressing your views on TVI.

Mr. Ben F. Waple, Secretary
Federal Communications Commission
Gettysburg, Pennsylvania

Dear Mr. Waple:

The amateur radio operators, especially those on 6-meters, are constantly plagued with television interference complaints even though they may be operating according to all Rules and Regulations.

The TV manufacturers do supply high pass filters for the alleviation of the problem; however, this information is not made available to the people that need the information the TV viewers.

The number of complaints reaching the amateur operator and the FCC offices could be substantially reduced if the TV manufacturers were required to inform the TV consumer, in the literature supplied with the TV receiver, that high pass filters are available for the alleviation of various interference problems. High pass filters on every set manufactured would be the ideal solution.

Sincerely yours,

Name Call-sign