

# HAM RAG

Affiliated with ARRL

NET meets each Monday at 9:00 P.M. local time on 28.7 megahertz



FEBRUARY 1972

GREETINGS! THAT'S THE WAY THE DRAFT BOARD STARTS OFF THEIR "CORDIAL" INVITATIONS TO ELIGIBLE CANDIDATES, SO I THOUGHT IT WOULD BE APPROPRIATE FOR THIS ISSUE OF THE HAM RAG. THIS ISSUE IS GOING OUT TO AS MANY OF THE AREA AMATEURS WE COULD LOCATE BECAUSE WE ARE TRYING TO DRAFT YOU INTO OUR CLUB.

LAST YEAR WE SAW THE CLUB MEMBERSHIP JUMP TO NEARLY 80 MEMBERS WHO HELPED RARA REACH SOME NEW HEIGHTS. WE PULLED OFF SOME PROJECTS LAST YEAR THAT JUST COULDN'T BE DONE WITH A HANDFUL OF MEMBERS. NOW AS WE LOOK AHEAD WE NEED MORE, BUT NOT ONLY DOES THE CLUB NEED YOU, BUT WE LIKE TO THINK YOU NEED US.

YOU NEED A CLUB TO HELP CONTINUE AND PROMOTE OUR HOBBY. THE CLUB DIRECTLY OR INDIRECTLY WAS RESPONSIBLE FOR MANY NEW LICENSEES TO REPLACE THOSE THAT FALL BY THE WAYSIDE. AND WE LIKE TO THINK WE KEPT A FEW FROM FALLING, TOO. BY HAVING A LARGE AND STRONG CLUB, WE CARRY A LITTLE MORE WEIGHT WITH THE FCC BOYS, ALSO. LAST YEAR, FOR THE FIRST TIME, THE CLUB PARTICIPATED IN OFFICIAL COMMENT ON RULEMAKING THAT AFFECTS OUR HOBBY.

YOU NEED A CLUB TO KEEP YOU INFORMED ON LATEST TECHNICAL ADVANCES AFFECTING AMATEUR RADIO. I'M SURE YOU WON'T FIND A MEMBER LAST YEAR WHO DIDN'T LEARN SOMETHING FROM THE VARIOUS PROGRAMS WE TRY TO HAVE AT EACH MEETING, AND, SEEING AND TALKING ABOUT THE VARIOUS PROJECTS SOME OF OUR MEMBERS ARE WORKING ON IS INTERESTING.

YOU NEED THE CLUB TO PARTICIPATE IN MANY CONTESTS AND SOCIAL EVENTS WITH YOUR FELLOW HAMS. WITHOUT A CLUB TYPE ORGANIZATION, FIELD DAY WOULD BE IMPOSSIBLE, AND WE TRY TO MAKE HAM RADIO MORE APPETIZING FOR THE XYL WITH THE FAMILY PICNICS AND CHRISTMAS PARTY AS WELL AS OTHER SOCIAL EVENTS.

AND, AS EDITOR OF THE HAM RAG, I SELFISHLY LIKE TO THINK YOU NEED THE CLUB MEMBERSHIP TO RECEIVE THIS NEWSLETTER AND ALL THE NEWS OF LOCAL ACTIVITIES AND OPERATORS I PUT IN IT. WE HAVE MANY MEMBERS WHO JOIN JUST TO RECEIVE THE HAM RAG AT THEIR DISTANT QTH.

SO, PLEASE CLIP OUT THE COUPON AND SEND IT IN WITH YOUR \$5 TODAY SO WE CAN HELP YOU HELP US. AND, THIS YEAR WE HAVE STARTED A STUDENT MEMBERSHIP WHICH GIVES THOSE WITH LIMITED FINANCES ALL CLUB PRIVILEGES EXCEPT THE FREE CHRISTMAS PARTY WHICH HE MAY ATTEND BY PAYING THE NORMAL GUEST CHARGE. WE ARE WAITING TO HEAR FROM YOU. IN THE MEANTIME, WE HOPE YOU ENJOY THE HAM RAG.

DE K9PAK, EDITOR IN CHIEF



1971 OFFICERS CONGRATULATE EACH OTHER AFTER A YEAR'S HARD WORK. FROM LEFT, WB9ETH, K9SAN, K9ORU, AND K9PAK.



LOOKS LIKE THAT OLD GANG OF NINE. FROM LEFT, W9BNO, W9FX, WB9ETH, WB9ILH, K9KZS. NOW RED, YOU SING BASS, AND.....



ENJOYING THE CHRISTMAS CHEER ARE W9WXV, XYL, W9NWB, XYL, K9KZS, XYL, AND W9FL & XYL STAND.

LOOK FOR ME AROUND 14,285 FROM CALIFORNIA ERL. W9LVT AND XYL ANN GET A WARM SEND-OFF FROM WA9MMI.

THE R.A.R.A. CHRISTMAS PARTY



# NOVICE and BEGINNER

I HAD A SHORT QSO WITH WA6PZY, NICK, IN DECEMBER. ON RECEIVING MY QSL HE SENT WITH IT A VERY NICE LETTER PLUS DIAGRAMS OF 2 LOW COST ANTENNAS, A VERTICAL WHICH CAN BE BUILT FOR AROUND \$3 TO \$5, AND A HELICAL FOR 15 M, WHICH SHOULD COST VERY LITTLE MORE. NICK GENEROUSLY SENT A BELATED XMAS GIFT OF A VERTICAL ANTENNA KIT MADE UP OF A ROLAID BOTTLE BASE INSULATOR AND SOME 1/2" CONDUIT FITTINGS WHICH CLEARLY SHOW HOW EASILY IT CAN BE CONSTRUCTED. THE TOP OF THE VERTICAL IS AN AUTO REPLACEMENT WHIP ANTENNA WHICH IS ADJUSTED FOR RESONANCE. IF INTERESTED CALL ME FOR MORE DETAILS (964-8736 ANYTIME).

IF YOU MISSED GETTING THE \$1 ELECTRONICS DICTIONARY (608 PAGES) MENTIONED IN THE JANUARY HAM RAG, YOU GOOFED. IT'S ABOUT THE BEST BARGAIN YOU'LL FIND. SEE THE ALLIED-RADIO SHACK CATALOG #215 FOR COUPON.

WN9HVK, PHIL, EXPECTS SOON TO HAVE A NEW DRAKE 2NT XMITTER. HIS EICO 720 IS FOR SALE (SEE AD). PHIL WILL REPLACE HIS 14AVQ VERTICAL WITH A TA-33 JR. AND SHOULD GET OUT.

LOW COST PUBLICATIONS? WRITE TO SUPERINTENDANT OF DOCUMENTS, WASHINGTON, D.C., AND REQUEST FREE PRICE LIST #82, RADIO, ELECTRICITY, AND ELECTRONICS.

FOR THOSE OF YOU WHO HAVE PUT IN SOME STUDY ON PROPAGATION THEORY, IT IS SAID THE SUNSPOT CYCLE PEAKED OUT IN THE FALL OF '68 AND WILL CONTINUE TO DECLINE UNTIL 1974.

QSL RESPONSE... IT HAS BEEN MY EXPERIENCE AS A NOVICE THAT FOR EVERY 10 QSL'S SENT OUT, I GET BETTER THAN 9 BACK. MY SCORE SO FAR IS 68 REPLIES FOR 75 SENT OUT.

NEED TO DE-SOLDER SOMETHING? THE GOOD DESOLDERING TOOLS COST \$12-\$14... EXPENSIVE UNLESS YOU DO A LOT OF IT. A LOCAL SHOP WORKING WITH 2-WAY RADIO USES "KWIK-WICK" OR "BONUS-WICK" WHICH I HAVE TRIED SUCCESSFULLY. IT IS A BRAIDED WICK WHICH SOAKS UP SOLDER LIKE A WICK IN A KEROSENE LAMP. COST ABOUT A DOLLAR FOR A GOOD SUPPLY.

HOPEFULLY SPRING SHOULD BRING A NUMBER OF NEW NOVICES TO THE AREA. WITH 2 UPCOMING CLASSES, RARA AND ROCK VALLEY COLLEGE, WE COULD HAVE 20 TO 25 NEW WN'S. ONE NEW ONE FOR SURE IS STEVE DONALDSON, OF PARKSIDE DRIVE. PAUL, WB9HGZ, ASSISTED HIM AND RAY, WB9ILH, GAVE THE EXAMS A FEW DAYS AGO. CONGRATULATIONS, STEVE.

73, WN9HHH



## FEBRUARY MEETING



BACK A FEW YEARS AGO IT WAS ANCIENT MODULATION VERSUS THE DONALD DUCKERS. NOW ANOTHER NEW PHASE OF AMATEUR RADIO HAS BEEN ADDED... FUNNY MODULATION OR FM. ACCORDING TO SOME AMATEUR JOURNALS, FM HAS BEEN A TRANSFUSION TO A DYING INDUSTRY. OTHER MAGAZINES IGNORE FM HOPING IT MAY JUST ROLL OVER AND DIE. THE FCC JUST ISN'T SURE WHAT TO DO. MANY OF THE TECHNICAL ADVANCES BROUGHT ABOUT BY FM'ERS JUST AREN'T COVERED BY FCC RULES. ON FEBRUARY 11TH RARA WILL MEET AT 7:30 P.M. AT ROCK VALLEY COLLEGE TO LOOK AT FM, TALK TO FM'ERS, AND FIND OUT WHAT'S GOING ON IN THE STRANGE WORLD OF THE FUNNY MODULATION ADVOCATES. K9PAK WILL MODERATE A PANEL DISCUSSION.

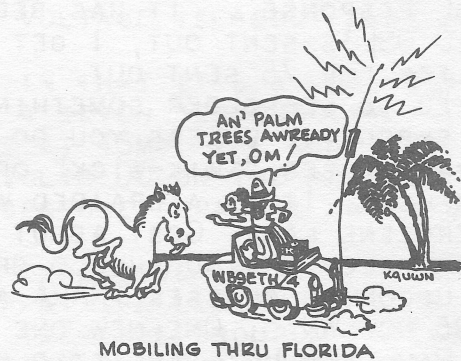
W9VZ SAYS WHEN WE FIRST GOT OUR TICKET, WE COULD GET ON THE AIR FOR WHAT IT COSTS TODAY FOR A DECENT PHONE PATCH.

REMEMBER: DON'T FORGET!  
AFTER A LOT OF MESSING AROUND AND WORRYING ABOUT A GOOD MATCH AND A REASONABLE SWR, I SAID TO H... WITH IT AND PUT MY SWAN ALL BAND ANTENNA ON THE BUMPER MOUNT AND TOOK OFF FOR FLORIDA. I WAS ABLE TO HAVE SOME VERY PLEASANT QSO'S ALONG THE WAY ON 20 AND 40 METERS. ALTHOUGH I DIDN'T MAKE ANY EXOTIC CONTACTS WITH DX STATIONS, I WAS ABLE TO WORK THE EAST COAST VERY EASILY. THIS WAS MY FIRST TRIP WITH A LOW BAND MOBILE RIG, AND IT SURE PASSES THE TIME QUICKLY EVEN IF YOU'RE JUST LISTENING TO MID-CARS. I WAS ABLE TO CONTACT WA9WVY, WB9ILH, WA9WMI, AND WB9CHU DURING MOBILE OPERATION ALTHOUGH CONDITIONS WERE SOMETIMES POOR. I MADE USE OF 2 METER FM ON THE WAY DOWN AND REPORTED A SERIOUS ACCIDENT THAT HAD JUST HAPPENED, AND ALSO GOT DIRECTIONS TO OUR MOTEL ON SANIBEL ISLAND VIA WB4OYV IN FT. MEYERS ON 2 FM, I WAS DISAPPOINTED BY THE LACK OF FM ACTIVITY DURING THE TRIP, THO.

WHILE WE WERE ON SANIBEL, I PUT UP A 14AVQ VERTICAL WITH A GROUND ROD ABOUT 3 FEET IN OCEAN WATER. I WAS ABLE TO WORK MOST OF THE U.S. AND SOUTH AMERICA INCLUDING A RARE ONE, HP6CX ON BARBODAS. I WAS ALSO ABLE TO WORK AT LEAST ONE OF THE KC4 STATIONS ALMOST EVERY NITE UP UNTIL 11 OR 12 P.M., I BELIEVE THE BEST DX WAS EL1E IN LIBERIA. (NOW WHAT DO YOU THINK OF VERTICALS, JIM?...ED.)

I WAS ALSO INVOLVED IN PASSING SOME TRAFFIC TO SOME PEOPLE IN CALIFORNIA IN REGARDS TO THEIR SON WHO WAS LOST AT SEA ABOARD A HONDURAS SHIP.

ALL IN ALL, IF YOU CAN SWING IT, CONSIDER MOBILE ON YOUR NEXT VACATION. I USED AN SB-34 WITH 135 WATTS PEP IN THE CAR AND A POORLY TUNED DRAKE TR-3 AT THE MOTEL.  
HAPPY MOBILING! . . . .DE WB9ETH



## MEMO *from the President*

IT IS TO ME A GREAT HONOR TO HAVE BEEN CHOSEN TO THE NUMBER ONE SPOT IN THE ROCKFORD AMATEUR RADIO ASSOCIATION.

NO QUESTION ABOUT IT - RARA MADE AN IMPRESSIVE RECORD FOR 1971 SUCH AS HIGH QUALITY PROGRAMS AT OUR MEETINGS, AN INCREASE FROM ABOUT 20 TO 82 IN OUR MEMBERSHIP, A NEW HAM-RAG, A WELL PLANNED BOOTH IN THE COLONIAL VILLAGE TO PROMOTE PUBLIC SERVICE AND PUBLICITY FOR AMATEUR RADIO.

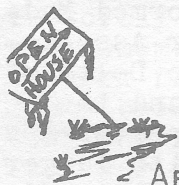
WE SHOULD ALL BE THANKFUL TO DAVE, K9PAK, LAST YEAR'S PRESIDENT, AND THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS FOR THEIR ACCOMPLISHMENTS. CERTAINLY A JOB WELL DONE.

THIS YEAR RARA IS IN CHARGE OF THE HAMFEST AND LOTS OF ACTIVITY IS PLANNED. THE HAMRAG WILL HAVE K9PAK AS THE EDITOR.

1972 WILL BE INTERESTING. JOIN THE CLUB... WE WOULD LIKE THE MEMBERSHIP TO EXCEED 100!! ALL THAT IS NEEDED IS YOUR CONTINUED SUPPORT AND TEAM SPIRIT. IF YOU HAVE ANY QUESTIONS OR SUGGESTIONS, DON'T HESITATE TO CALL ON ME.

73, GUNNY OHLSON, K9WTS, PRESIDENT

EVEN THO WE ARE IN THE MIDDLE OF THE SNOW DRIFT SEASON, IT IS NOT HARD TO LET OUR THOUGHTS WANDER TO SUMMER AND THE HAMFESTS. THAT IS EXACTLY WHAT THE HAMFEST COMMITTEE DID ON JANUARY 26TH. REPRESENTATIVES OF RARA AND BIG THUNDER (BELVIDERE) CLUBS MET TO START THE PLANNING. THIS YEAR ONLY TWO CLUBS WILL BE SHARING IN THE WORK (AND PROFITS!) AS THE BELOIT CLUB HAS DROPPED OUT. RARA'S DELEGATES TO THE COMMITTEE ARE WB9ILH, WN9HHH, WB9IQL, AND WA9WVY. W9FL AND WB9CHU WILL BE USED AS ALTERNATES. AT THIS MEETING IT WAS DECIDED TO CHANGE THE HAMFEST NAME TO BELVIDERE-ROCKFORD HAMFEST OR BEL-ROCK FOR SHORT. DATE WILL BE EITHER AUGUST 20 OR 27TH DEPENDING ON COMPETING HAMFESTS AND FAIR GROUNDS AVAILABILITY. EACH CLUB WILL KICK IN \$200 IN ADVANCE TO THE HAMFEST TO PAY ADVANCE BILLS FOR PRINTING, ETC. THE COMMITTEE IS OPEN FOR YOUR SUGGESTIONS. SEE ANY HAMFEST DELEGATE.



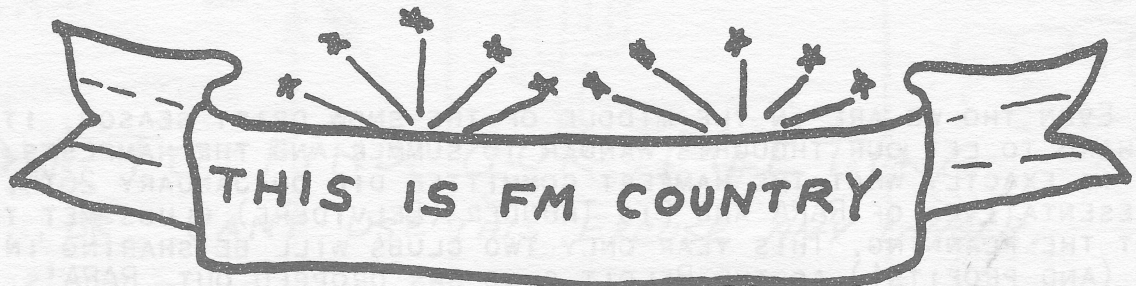
AFTER THE JANUARY OPEN HOUSE MEETING, SOMEONE SHOULD TRY TO RECRUIT THE WEATHERMAN FOR OUR NOVICE CLASS SO HE WILL BE ON OUR SIDE. THOSE WHO WENTURED OUT IN THE 20 BELOW WEATHER WERE GREETED WITH A WARM WELCOME AND LOTS OF HOT COFFEE. ABOUT 20 VISITORS AND 30 MEMBERS MET IN THE LARGE PERFORMING ARTS AUDITORIUM AT ROCK VALLEY COLLEGE TO VIEW HAM'S WIDE WORLD AND DISCUSS HAM RADIO. IT WAS GOOD TO SEE SO MANY YOUNG HAMS-TO-BE... SOME EVEN BROUGHT THEIR ENTIRE FAMILY. AS A RESULT OF THE OPEN HOUSE AND OTHER PUBLICITY WE HOPE TO HAVE A GOOD TURN-OUT AT THE UPCOMING NOVICE SCHOOLS. (SEE ARTICLE ON THIS ELSEWHERE IN HAM RAG).

ALSO AT THE JANUARY MEETING, ELECTION OF OFFICERS FOR 1972 WAS HELD. RESULTS... K9WTS, PRESIDENT; WB9IQL, VICE PRESIDENT; WN9HHH, SECRETARY; AND WA9WVY, TREASURER. THESE GENTLEMEN WILL ALSO SERVE ON THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS ALONG WITH REMAINING DIRECTORS K9PAK, W9FL, WB9CHU, WB9ETH, AND K9SAN.

# COMING UP

- FEB 4 - 6 ..... ARRL DX CONTEST PHONE
- FEB 8 ..... RARA NOVICE CLASS BEGINS
- FEB 11 ..... RARA MEETING
- FEB 15 ..... RVC NOVICE AT EAST HIGH
- FEB 18 - 20 ..... ARRL DX CONTEST CW
- FEB 19 ..... RVC NOVICE AT COLLEGE
- FEB 23 ..... HAMFEST MEETING
- MARCH 3 - 5 ..... ARRL DX CONTEST PHONE
- MARCH 10 ..... RARA MEETING ON DX
- APRIL 14 ..... RARA MEETING ON ARRL
- MAY 12 ..... RARA MEETING
- JUNE 24 - 25 ..... FIELD DAY





"A TECHNICAL, AND SOMETIMES NOT SO TECHNICAL, EXPOSE OF THE F3 MODE OF OPERATION IN SO. WISCONSIN & NO. ILLINOIS

VOL. 1 NO.

**FREQUENCY COORDINATION OR HOW TO GET IT ALL TOGETHER**

Following many headaches the leaders of the Illinois 34/76 repeaters have decided to put their heads together and come up with a mutually satisfactory solution:

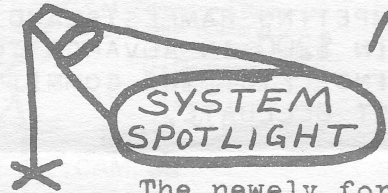
- WA9ORC 146.16
- 146.76
- WA9LIV 145.95
- 146.55
- WB9ADW 146.13
- 146.73

From the outside the solution seemed self evident: narrow banding for more frequencies to expand into. The dropping of .34 inputs require only Madison and Milwaukee to move to the 16 input, before it can be used for universal simplex operation. It certainly will be nice when synthesis is state of the art!

**EDITORS NOTE:** "This is FM Country" is published by D.K. Gustafson on an irregular basis and will continue with support. This publication is in no way connected with N.I.R.A. OR RARA.

**N.I.R.A.**

**E** The 146.46/.88  
**W** Rockford repeater  
**S** was functional for a short period of time before it was dismantled to be moved to its permanent location. Lack of man-hours to finish the installation is the main problem plaguing it now. Testing has shown the controls to function quite well. The cash expenditure is growing quite large. Preliminary plans are going as expected, however much slower. The frequencies will stand so that crystals may be used with the Madison or Chicago systems. Tone burst entry will be 1800 Hz.



**M.A.R.A.**

The newly formed Madison Amateur Repeater Association outgrowth of the Delta of Kappa Eta Kappa ARC and the Central Wisconsin Repeater Assn. has flowered again with larger blooms. Sporting a healthy 50 Watts out, the system puts out a signal to the Illinois state line. The system employs full touchtone autopatch (homebrew) capabilities. The input is 146.34 with a 2100Hz tone and the output is 146.76 completely solid-state control and a digital I.D. unit. At present the system is operating two-site with a 450 link, however usually it operates on-site with two homebrew cavities and J-pole antennae. The range of the repeater is approximately 30 miles to a 10 Watt mobile. For further information contact Bill WA9PWR technical advisor.

*Tales From Never-Never Land*

Long ago and in a far away kingdom elves talked to other elves on their little magic boxes. They could take them apart and put them back together, but they made them talk by pressing a button. They had great fun. They called it .94. Soon others discovered what great fun it was although they only learned to press the magic button and chose not to discover the secrets of the magic box. Soon there were more elves trying to talk to each other than ever before and bedlam would rule the countryside because some of the elves did not realize how their magic boxes worked. They had to share the magic boxes wonders with many others. The king was very disappointed because the elves always minded to their own problems. The ruler had already made provisions for those elves who were not expected to do more than press a magic button: a 23 channel magic box with no technical qualifications necessary.

LETS GO TO THE

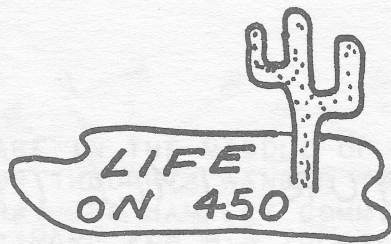
# RACES

The RACES K9CLW repeater 146.82/147.30 is functional for emergency operation with the move to its permanent location at the county farm. operating on-site with vertical separation and emergency power. The system stands by ready to provide blanket communications over Winnebago County, which is sorely needed if you remember trying to work from the Red Cross base to downtown Cherry Valley last spring. Hats off to Dave Barquist for a job well done.

## ZERO DEVIATION

### AN EDITORIAL

The evolution of FM in Northern Illinois has followed the natural progression throughought the rest of the country. First the conversion of commercial gear by people associated with communications and their friends. But what about the ham who is not, and now with the advent of the mini-rig where does this leave the state of 2M FM? It never failed to disgust me when someone would call through our Madison 34/76 repeater listening 94 and not be able to understand why the manufacturer set up the rig that way. Or how about the fellow that has 15 zillion kilohertz of deviation but won't adjust the deviation pot because it was factory set.



ANY SUGGESTIONS  
OR INTEREST?



TALKBACK

READERS OPINION: In the future this column will be devoted for any reasonable comment on or about FM operation. send letters to:  
D.K. Gustafson (WB9EEH)

## F.M. SERVICE *getting it right on... frequency*

There seems to be a problem of frequency netting. Anyone offer a traceable standard which everyone can follow?

The older vintage Regencies have a prolific desire to eat final transistors if care is not taken.

Also wiring of transistorized transceivers should be to a switched ignition line like the car radio. Serious problems have been encountered such as spiking transistors from the final down to the audio amplifiers.

### ZERO DEV. (CONTINUED)

Or the ham that thinks 94 is his personal intercom around the city: anyway you look at it 2M FM operation is different than any other. But where is FM going? The amateur by his very nature is an independent. Elaborate equipment, towers, and antenna systems are his cup of tea. Where is he with a low power rig with a whip antenna? Only now after FM has grown out of proportion is there any talk of organization and coordination. To organize and coordinate require the work of all and one prerequisite: understanding. This is the only way amateur VHF FM will continue to grow and maintain its high standards.

WB9EEH

I.D. continued-

The explanation is hardly worth it except for technical finesse'. The matrix must be made larger though to accommodate the unminimized function. The rest of the construction follows easily from the book.

## THE ELUSIVE DIGITAL I.D. (SIMPLIFIED)

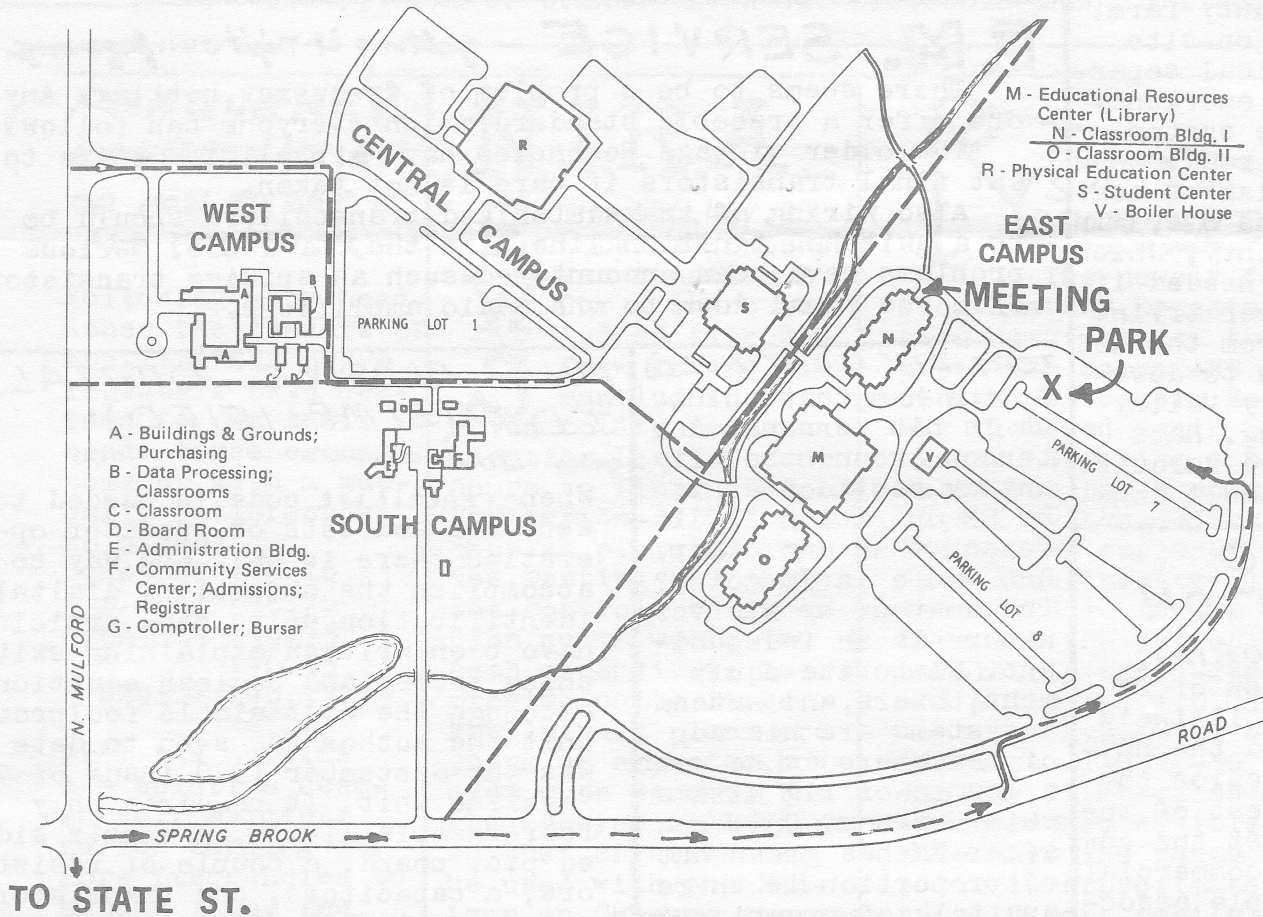
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When repetitive code is needed to be sent for contests or repeater operation there is only one way to accomplish the objective: digital identification units. Many articles have been written explaining switching theory and Boolean equations although the most simple foolproof unit the author has seen to date was the September 1970 issue of 73 Magazine unit. It requires only four cheapie I.C.'s, a double sided p.c. board, a couple of resistors, a capacitors, one transistor, and approximately 50-100 diodes depending on the call. Two of these units have been constructed by the author and have been functioning with out failure for almost a year. Where to put the diodes on the matrix is the major problems and where the publications hit rocky ground. First the task must be broken in to the dots and spaces. Lay out on a sheet of paper with 32 boxes numbered 0-31 in each box put a dot, blank, or dash corresponding to the call that you wish to generate. Below each number write the corresponding number base 2. Take all the numbers in base 2 which are dots, then take the numbers which correspond to the blanks, these are the on arrays as described in the articles. They are not minimized however for the price of Ge diodes

CONT.

# HOW TO FIND OUR MEETING

... OR, CAN'T USE THIS EXCUSE ANY LONGER.



\*\*\*\*\*

YES, I'LL JOIN. PLEASE SEND ME THE HAM RAG AS ONE OF THE PRIVILEGES OF MEMBERSHIP IN THE ROCKFORD AMATEUR RADIO ASSN, ALONG WITH ALL OF THE OTHER FANTASTIC ADVANTAGES. I UNDERSTAND THAT AS A FULL MEMBER I CAN ATTEND THE FREE CHRISTMAS PARTY, TOO.

NAME \_\_\_\_\_ CALL \_\_\_\_\_

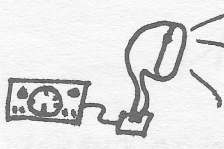
ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_

CITY \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP \_\_\_\_\_

ANNUAL DUES - \$5.00 ENCLOSED

\_\_\_\_\_ I AM A STUDENT AND WISH TO APPLY FOR STUDENT MEMBERSHIP WITH ALL CLUB PRIVILEGES EXCEPT THE FREE CHRISTMAS PARTY. \$2.00 IS ENCLOSED.

MAIL TO: LEE GEHLHAUSEN, WA9WVY, 4610 CAYUGA, ROCKFORD 61107



READING  
THE  
MAIL

K9WTS HAS A NEW TWIST IN HAM LICENSE PLATES... HIS IS "DX-321". HE WANTS TO BRAG ABOUT HIS DXCC TOTAL OF 321 COUNTRIES. JIM, ETH, SAYS "IT'S EASY TO TELL WHEN YOU HAVE A BARGAIN IN HAM RADIO GEAR... IT DOESN'T WORK." K6YRA MOVING HERE FROM THE WEST TO A NEW QTH ON ALMA DRIVE, JUST DOWN THE BLOCK FROM K9AMJ. AL WILL HAVE A NEW SB-202 TO SET NEW DXCC RECORDS FROM HIS ILLINOIS QTH.

ERNIE, MAP, AND BUD, CHU, HAVE BEEN WINTERING IN FLORIDA. K9VJJ SEZ YOU NEVER KNOW HOW MUCH SOME OF THESE HOMEBREW RIGS ARE WORTH UNTIL YOU SEE HOW MUCH THEY'RE INSURED FOR. WB9ILH HAS HIS NEW TH-6 TRIBANDER UP NOW THANK TO SOME NICE WEATHER IN JANUARY. HE HAS A NEW 6 METER BEAM FOR SALE. PAK MET A CB'ER WHO HAS AN ANTENNA TUNER WITH A FANTASTIC EFFICIENCY... 5 WATTS IN AND 1000 WATTS OUT.

PETE, W9LVT, HAS PURCHASED A NEW QTH IN ARCADIA, CALIF., AND WILL BE MOVING HIS FAMILY OUT IN A FEW WEEKS. RARA BOUGHT HIS 10 AND 15 METER BEAMS FOR FIELD DAY. PETE WAS SURPRISED BY A SMALL(!) GOING AWAY PARTY AT THE PINK PONY RESTAURANT ATTENDED BY MANY OF HIS CLOSE FELLOW HAMS. PETE LEAVES US WITH THESE WORDS... "YOU SURE CAN'T BLAME THE POPULATION EXPLOSION ON BAND OPENINGS."

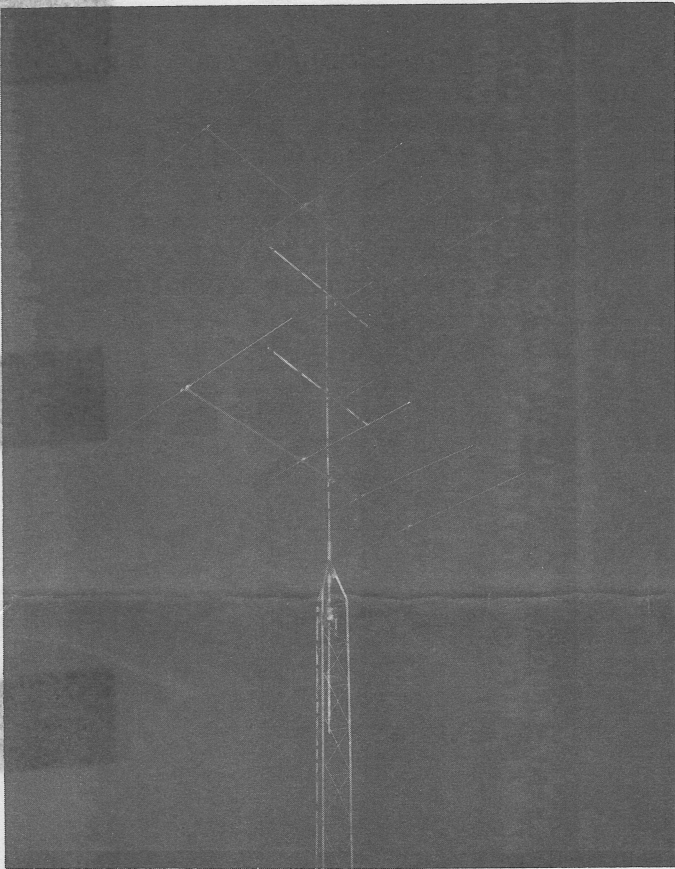
HOW ABOUT THE NEW LOOK OF PHOTO'S IN THIS EDITION OF THE HAM RAG? UNFORTUNATELY, COSTS MAKE PHOTOGRAPHIC WORK A LITTLE OUT OF OUR BUDGET FOR EVERY ISSUE, BUT PERHAPS IN A FEW MONTHS... BY THE WAY, THANKS TO PAUL, K9VJJ FOR THE CHRISTMAS PARTY PIGS AND WB9BHY, GEORGE, FOR "SHOOTING" W9RGU. IT DOESN'T COST ANY MORE TO RUN K9UWN'S DRAWINGS, THO, SO WE HOPE TO BE SEEING MORE, TNX TO JACK.

THREE... YES, COUNT 'EM... THREE NOVICE CLASSES WILL BE STARTING SOON. SO THERE IS NO EXCUSE FOR ANYONE NOT BE ABLE TO ENROLL, PROVIDING THEY KNOW ABOUT THE CLASSES. THAT'S YOUR JOB WHEN SOMEONE ASKS ABOUT HOW TO GET A HAM LICENSE. ONE OF THE CLASSES IS DESIGNED FOR THE YOUNGER HAM. IT WILL MEET ON TUESDAY AND THURSDAY NIGHTS, BEGINNING FEB. 8TH, AT MEMORIAL HALL, 211 N. MAIN. THIS CLASS IS SPONSORED BY RARA. AND, IT TURNS UP THAT ROCK VALLEY IS GOING TO TRY TO HAVE 2 CLASSES. ONE WILL BE SATURDAY MORNINGS FROM 9 TO 11, TAUGHT BY K9UCM. THE OTHER WILL MEET ON TUESDAY EVENINGS, 7:00 PM, AT EAST HIGH SCHOOL, TAUGHT BY LUCY, W9USR. CALL ROCK VALLEY COLLEGE TO INQUIRE ABOUT THE LATTER TWO CLASSES. BOTH OF THESE WILL START THE WEEK OF FEB. 14TH. THE LAST CLASS CAME ABOUT WHEN THE BOARD OF EDUCATION COMBINED FORCES WITH RVC.

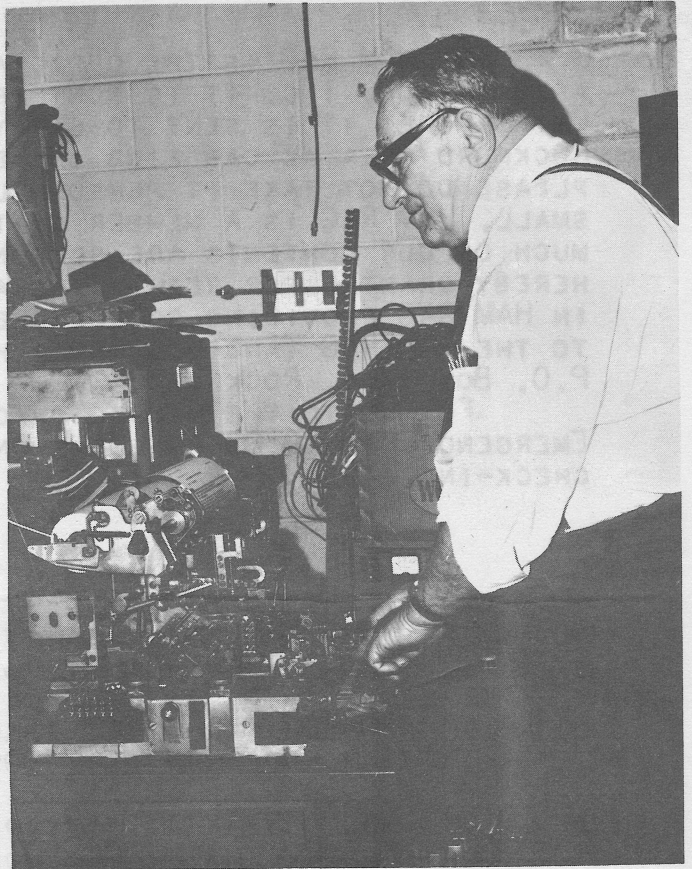


NOVICE CLASS BEGINS

WB9EIE INADVERTENTLY LEFT HIS MOBILE TRANSMITTER ON AND WAS OVERHEARD TO SAY TO THE YL "FASTEN YOUR SEAT BELT, DEAR, I'M GOING TO PARK."



THE VHF ANTENNA FARM AT W9RGU ....  
STACKED BEAMS FOR TWO AND SIX ON  
A 40 FOOT TOWER.



STATION TRUSTEE W9MAP WORKS ON A  
MODEL 15 TELETYPE, ONE OF MANY RTTY  
MACHINES AT THE STATION.



W9RGU IS A MEMORIAL STATION  
LOCATED IN THE BASEMENT OF  
THE RED CROSS CHAPTER  
HOUSE IN ROCKFORD. IT IS  
DEDICATED TO SERVICE TO  
AREA CITIZENS IN CASE OF  
DISASTER. W9HOA, A.B.  
BRAND, WAS INSTRUMENTAL  
IN BUILDING THE STATION  
IN THE EARLY '50'S, AND  
IT SERVES AS A MEMORIAL  
TO HIM FOR THE MANY HOURS  
OF DEDICATED SERVICE HE  
PUT INTO THE STATION.

HERE, K9QYY AND WA9BWK  
(STANDING) WATCH W9MAP  
OPERATE NET CONTROL FOR  
THE 10 METER ROCKFORD  
EMERGENCY NET.

REMEMBER... CHECK INTO THE ROCKFORD EMERGENCY NET, 28.7 MHz, USB (OR AM)  
EACH MONDAY EVENING AT 9:00 P.M, LOCAL TIME.

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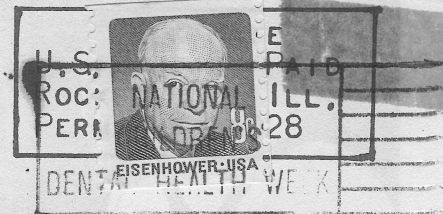
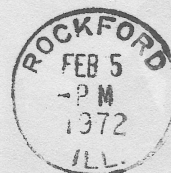
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