

HAM RAG

Affiliated with ARRL

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



APRIL ISSUE 1973

EVER HEAR OF A MURDOCK VARIABLE? A LOOSE COUPLER?
OR SEE A SPARK TRANSMITTER IN ACTUAL OPERATION?
WELL, NOW'S YOUR CHANCE!

FRIDAY, APRIL 13th, 7:30 PM, ROCK VALLEY COLLEGE

WE WILL HAVE A GANG OF AUTHENTIC "OLDE TYMERS" ON HAND TO PRESENT THE SHOW. I SAT IN ON THEIR ORGANIZATIONAL MEETING AND THESE GUYS HAD ME IN TEARS - LAUGHING, OF COURSE. YOU SIMPLY MUST NOT MISS THIS FUN MEETING. I HEAR THAT A W2, NAME OF RIP VAN SOMETHING, WHO HAS BEEN OFF THE AIR ABOUT 20 YEARS, MAY EVEN BE THERE. THERE WILL BE ONE OF THE LARGEST DISPLAYS OF PREHISTORIC GEAR EVER SEEN IN THESE PARTS, WHICH YOU CAN INSPECT WITH YOUR COFFEE AND DONUTS.

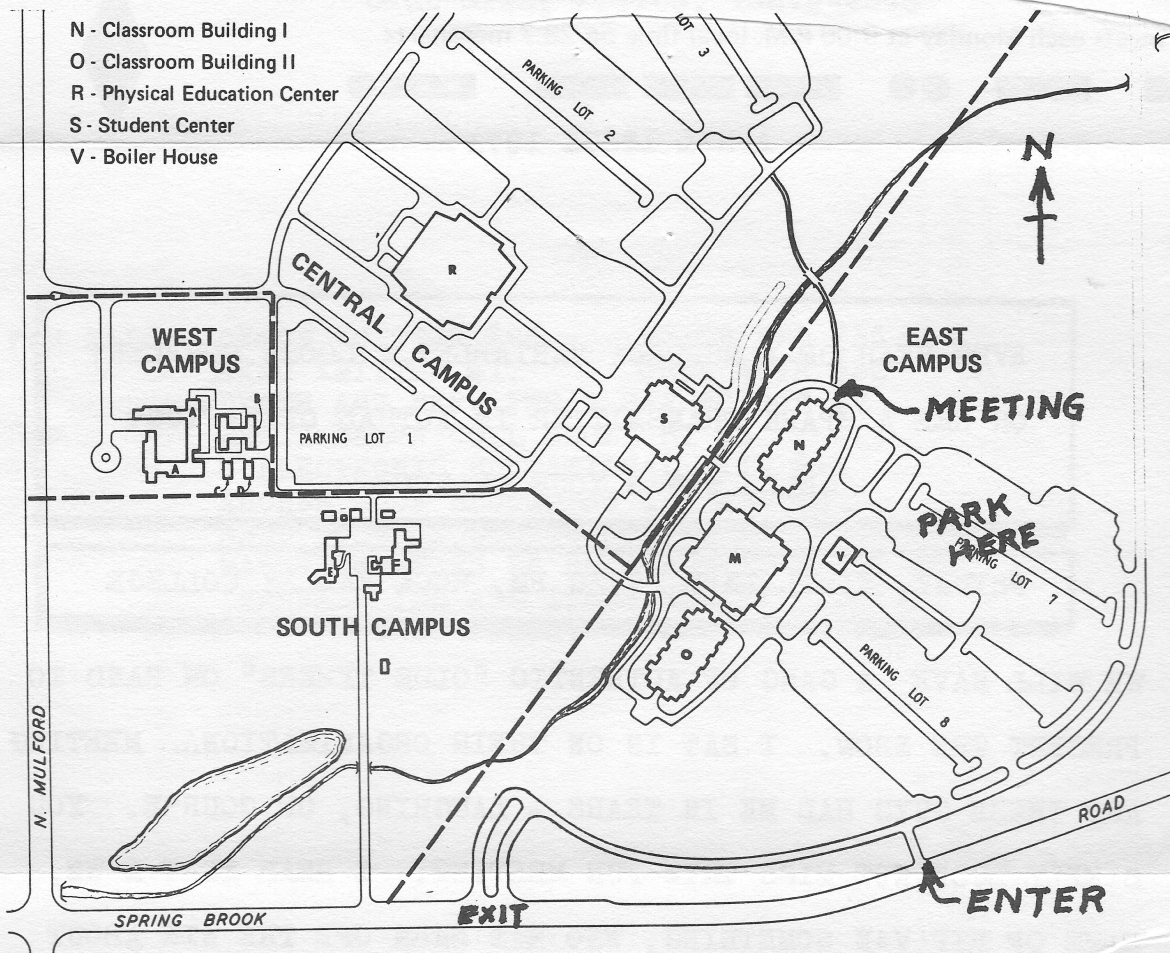
DON'T MISS THIS RARE EVENT!

ROCKFORD AMATEUR RADIO ASSO. INC.
P.O. BOX 1744, ROCKFORD, ILL. 61108
1973 BOARD OF DIRECTORS

GUNNAR OHLSON, K9WTS - 399-8289
LEE GEHLHAUSEN, WA9WVY - 399-3716
DICK CONNORS, WB9IED - 877-7722
BILL RIDGWAY, WB9KOS - 877-2315

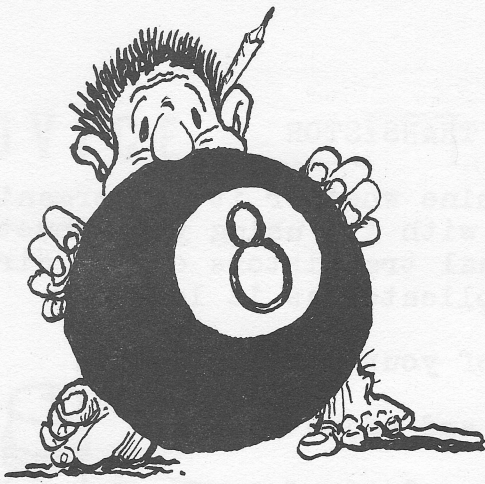
JACK STUMAN, K9UWN - 399-3890
RALPH SHAFF, WB9HHH - 964-8736
MIKE SOUHRADA, WB9IOG - 1-874-4646
CLYDE ASPLING, WB9KOT - 1-874-2330

YOUR SUGGESTIONS AND CRITICISMS ARE INVITED - PHONE ANY TIME.



RARA HOPES THAT THOSE OF YOU WHO HAVE NOT PAID YOUR \$5.00 ANNUAL DUES FOR 1973 WILL DO SO NOW. THIS WILL PERMIT YOU TO ENJOY THE FUN AND TO PARTICIPATE IN CLUB ACTIVITIES - - - PLUS YOUR SUBSCRIPTION TO THE HAM RAG. PLEASE MAIL YOUR CHECK TO CLYDE, WB9KOT, OR SEE HIM AT THE APRIL MEETING. WE WANT YOUR PARTICIPATION!

THIS IS THE LAST ISSUE OF THE HAM RAG THAT RARA CAN AFFORD TO SEND TO THOSE WHO DO NOT PAY DUES.



PRESIDENT'S LOG

Hope you didn't miss the R.A.C.E.S. meeting last month. Jay Hart W9QYY did an exceptional job explaining what the Civil Emergency Service can do for you, and how you may contribute. It appeared that a great deal of interest was generated during Jay's presentation. If you have an interest I suggest you come down to the Red Cross building on Net nite and sign up.

Have some bad news, and good news. Good news, is that Gunny Ohlson has a new position with the Barton Division of ITT. Gunny will eventually live near Los Angeles- the land of everlasting sunshine - or is that smog? Bad news is we are losing a top operator, past president and aid-de-camp to many of us. Gunny's ability as a ham operator is well known to us and many DX hounds the world over. I bet Pete Grillo and Gunny join up in W6 land and show those guys how to do it- hi.

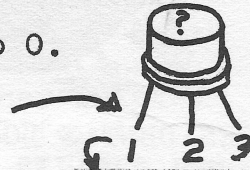
As Gunny leaves we now have two positions to fill; that of Director, and Field Day Manager. We will be announcing the Director to serve Gunnys term at the April meeting. Any organizers interested in taking charge of the Field Day event please let me know soon. In signing off please note the questionnaire in last months Ham Rag, fill it out and bring it to the April meeting if you haven't done so already. Your officers need this kind of information to develop the activities and programs of interest to you. Amateur Radio has many facets, we simply do not know what the majority interest is. Help us to help you make our association supportive to your pursuit of Amateur Radio.

73's De WB9IOG

HOW TO IDENTIFY AN UNKNOWN TRANSISTOR

You can identify the leads, determine whether it is germanium or silicon, and what may be wrong with it, using your ohmmeter. This procedure works on small signal transistors out of circuit. It is really easy, and not as complicated as it looks.

1. Determine the actual polarity of your ohmmeter leads.
2. Set selector to the 100X scale and adjust to 0.
3. Arbitrarily number the transistor leads for temporary identification.



4. Measure and record resistance in a chart like this. Readings shown are a typical example.

LEADS		OHMS
+	-	
1	2	inf
2	1	110
1	3	high
3	1	inf
2	3	115
3	2	high

5. If transistor is good, two of the readings will be LOW and nearly alike. All others will read INFINITY or very high.
6. The lead number that appears in both low readings is the BASE. (#2 in the example)
7. If the base lead appears in the + column, the transistor is NPN. If it appears in the - column, the transistor is PNP. (Example is NPN.)
8. For the other two leads, note the slight difference between the "inf" and the "high" readings. (Ex. 1-3 is high, 3-1 inf)
 - a) The "high" reading that is + is the EMITTER of a PNP.
or the COLLECTOR of a NPN.
 - b) The "high" reading that is - is the COLLECTOR of a PNP.
or the EMITTER of a NPN.
 - c) The remaining lead is the third element.
(Example: from step #7, transistor is NPN, and "high" is +1 -3, so lead #1 is collector and #3 is emitter)
9. Reset ohmmeter to X1000 and adjust to 0.
10. Check collector to emitter resistance both ways.
 - a) If one reading is definitely lower than infinity, and the other is still lower, transistor is GERMANIUM.
 - b) If one reading is infinity, and the other is only slightly lower, the transistor is SILICON.
 - c) If both readings are definitely infinity, transistor is OPEN and is NO GOOD.
 - d) If more than two readings in Step #4 are low, the transistor is SHORTED and NO GOOD.
(Example: readings are definitely less than infinity, and opposite way is still less, so transistor is GERMANIUM and GOOD because the chart shows only two low readings.)

NOVICE



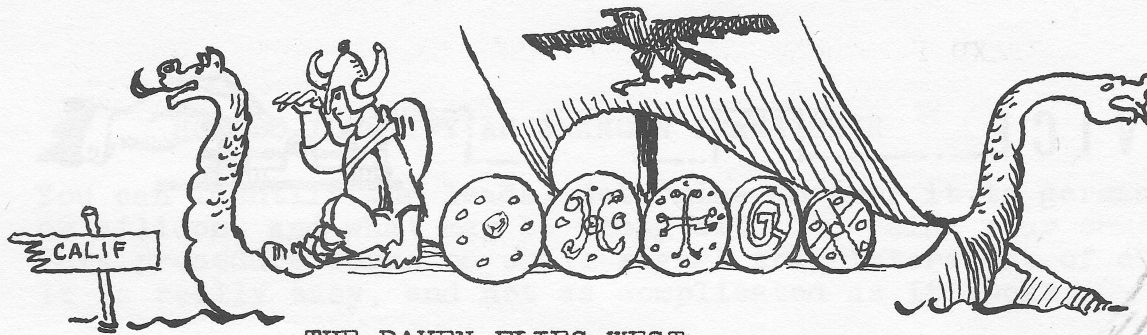
NOVICE & BEGINNER

Novice classes are going to be held at Rock Valley College from June 4 to August 6, 7:00p.m. to 9:00p.m. on Monday nights. Vito, K9UCM, who has taught the previous Novice classes will be the instructor. For more information contact the Technology Department at Rock Valley College. The phone number is 226-2650.

DX lately? 15 meters has been closed much of last week because of a magnetic storm, but many FB DX QSO's have been made in the past month. Earl, WN9KOR, has been quite busy logging WH6IBF, Hawaii, on 40 meters on March 3rd at 0800 GMT, OK3EA, Czechoslovakia on 21.177 at 1520 GMT and I8NUW, Italy, on 21.121 at 1500 GMT both on March 25th. I have been a little busy myself logging XE1QH, Mexico, on March 25th and ZP5FN, Paraguay, on March 27th.

Duane, WN9LEF, has his 18AVT on the roof now and is going for his General ticket on April 13. Tom, WN9KXZ, is being received loud and clear with his new Drake T4XC Transmitter and R4B Receiver. He is expecting his General ticket to arrive any time now. John, WN9IST, has been having problems with his antenna system, but is back on the air with a strong signal. Gus, WN9K00, has taken off to Florida for a while and is enjoying the weather there.

73, De WN9KZQ



THE RAVEN FLIES WEST

During the early spring thaw, in the ice-crystal month spanned by a dying March and the early days of a new April, the old Viking dragon-ship of our friend Kilo Niner Whiskey Tight Swede will set a westward course toward California. This decision was not occasioned by a desire to explore the "Northwest Passage" but rather a matter of economics and of greater personal opportunity. Those of us who have been closely associated with the "Ymptlander" over the years will say "adjö" to Gunnie with reluctance because it is never easy to say "good bye" to old friends.

We use the symbolism of the Vikings' dragon or serpent ship, with its black raven totem displayed on its great sail, so in metaphore we can say the "Raven Flies West" again, and shall no longer be domiciled among us. He shall be missed often by his many friends and especially by RARA to whom he contributed many hours of untiring effort.

The "old" Viking was first licensed in his native Sweden in January 1950 with the call sign SM3BZD. His active career in Scandinavia consisted mostly of CW operation, using low powered rigs which he designed and built himself. In 1954 he left the fjords and fjells of his native land and set his Viking craft on a westward course to the United States. He began work almost immediately at Barber-Colman Company, but was drafted into military service in 1955 and sent to the Munich, Germany service area. In the service he applied for and was assigned the call sign DL4GJ and enjoyed many hours as a DX station operating from Germany. During this Munich period, he met and married his XYL, Helga. Released from the service and back home in the Rockford area, he took the FCC EXAM. the second day after becoming a United States citizen, in April of 1960, and was issued his present call sign of K9WTS.

"Gunnie's" career in amateur radio circles in the Rockford area needs no embellishment by someone with a ready pen. His enthusiasm in promoting all amateur programs wasn't surpassed by his readiness to help any ham with an operating problem. Among his accomplishments, "Gunnie" served as President of the WIS-ILL VHF amateur radio club and the Rockford Amateur Radio Association. Both clubs reached a zenith in membership and activities during his tenure. "Gunnie" will soon have a W6 call, and many of us here will listen eagerly for his west coast signals.

Adjö, and Aufwiederseh'n to Gun, XYL Helga, and the second ops Ruth and Linda. We wish fair skies to attend your westward journey.

W9AXD PERFORMANCE IN 1973 ARRL DX CONTEST

CW - FEBRUARY 17-18, MARCH 17-18

<u>BAND</u>	<u>QSO</u>	<u>COUNTRIES</u>	<u>OPERATORS</u>
1.8	1	1	WB9IOG (first weekend)
3.5	38	20	K9WTS (both weekends)
7.0	57	31	K9UIY (both weekends)
14	325	66	
21	115	46	
28	10	10	
<hr/>			
TOTALS	546	174	50 HOURS ON THE AIR

CLAIMED SCORE: 285,012

GREAT TEST . . MAYBE NEXT YEAR . . NOW UIY GETTING

SET TO GET WRITERS CRAMP ON THOSE QSL'S AGAIN!

73 / DX VIC K9UIY

KEN-ROCK HOBBY SHOW RARA EXHIBIT

The hobby show at the Ken-Rock Community Center on March 24 and 25 featured a demonstration station set up by RARA men, that turned up about 10 genuinely interested prospective hams.

Equipment included, in operation, 40 meter Novice gear, and 20, 15, and 2 meter phone, with temporary antennas. . . . also, unfortunately, a fitful, flickering fluorescent directly above, with no rocks to throw at it. Despite this local QRM and vocal QRM from the large crowd, both coasts and Mexico were worked, enhancing the interest of the prospects.

Rigs were generously furnished by Bill Penn and Jim Dunlea, and display material by Tom Silletti and Mike Souhrada. Vito Fiore supplied forms for those interested in training.

The considerable effort of erecting, operating, and manning the exhibit were shared in various degrees by:

JIM DUNLEA, WN9KZQ
TOM SILLETTI, WN9KXZ
BILL PENN, WA9IYK
DICK CONNORS, WB9IED
DAVE LARSON, WN9HPV

MIKE SOUHRADA, WB9IOG
EARL DAVIS, WN9KOR
RALPH SHAFF, WB9HHH
DON WALLGREN, WN9KOQ
PAUL KLEIN, K9VJJ

K9WTS/6

STARTING APRIL 6 - ROCKFORD TIME
14290 ± QRM @ 9PM EVENINGS
21360 ± QRM @ 11, 12AM, 1PM SUNDAY
USING SB-102 AND POOR ANTENNA

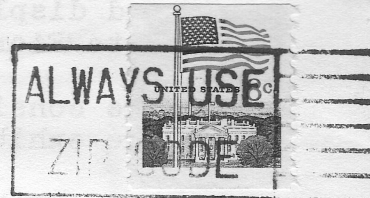
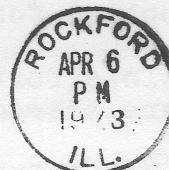
TRADER'S CORNER

WANTED: 6-METER RIG LIKE HEATHKIT "LUNCHBOX" OR SIMILAR. MUST BE REASONABLY PRICED.
CALL AL, W9PAE, 398-2699

WANTED: LINEAR AMPLIFIER PARTS! ESPECIALLY FIVE-POSITION BAND SWITCH AND PLATE CHOKE.
CALL MIKE, WB9IOG, 1-874-4646

FOR SALE: DX60B XMITTER \$65 HG10B VFO \$35
DX20 XMITTER \$17 GR64 RCVR \$32
HEATH AMZ REF. PWR & SWR BRIDGE \$7
HEATH BALUN COIL MODEL B1 \$5
3 ELECTRONIC EDUCATIONAL KITS \$15
ARCHER CODE RECORD 33 1/3 RPM \$2
SAMS CODE RECORD COURSE, 3 LP \$3
MASTERCRAFTERS 24 HR ELECTRIC CLOCK \$5
(MANUALS FOR ALL ITEMS EXCEPT CLOCK)
CALL RALPH, WB9HHH, 964-8736

ROCKFORD AMATEUR RADIO ASSOCIATION INC.,
P.O. BOX 1744, ROCKFORD, ILLINOIS 61110



PAUL DEAN WEBER
317 SHAW ST.
ROCKFORD, IL. 61108



FIRST CLASS