

HAM RAG

Affiliated with ARRL

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



MAY ISSUE, 1973

MAY 11th MEETING WILL BE HELD AT
ROCK VALLEY COLLEGE, 7:30 PM, ROOM 222

SUBJECT:

ANTENNAS

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ROCKFORD AMATEUR RADIO ASSO. INC.

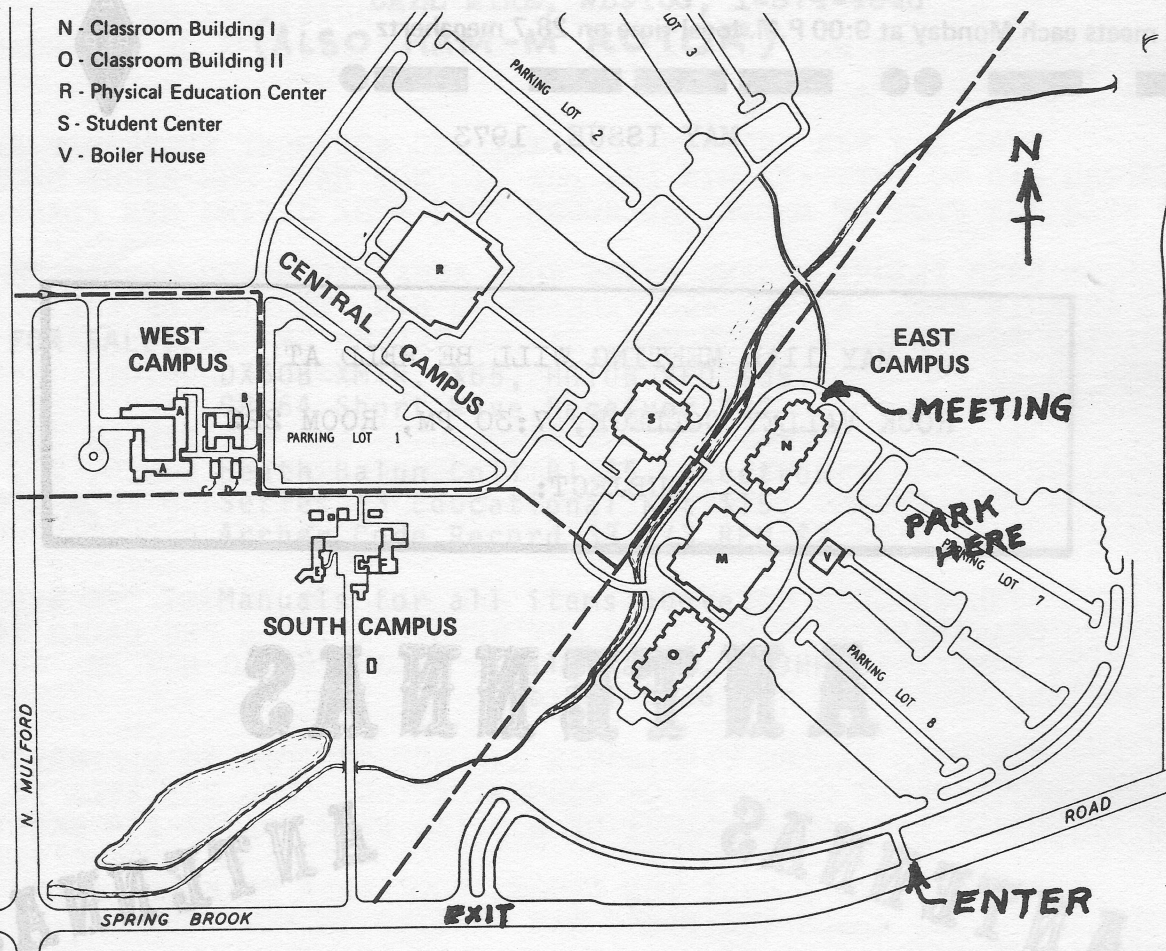
P.O. BOX 1744, ROCKFORD, ILL. 61108

1973 BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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

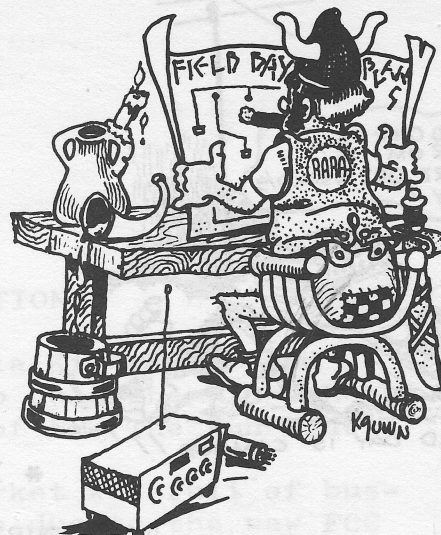
JACK STUMAN, K9UWN - 399-3890
RALPH SHAFF, WB9HHH - 964-8736
MIKE SOUHRADA, WB9IOG - 1-874-4646
CLYDE ASPLING, WB9KOT - 1-874-2330

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 MEETING. WE WANT YOUR PARTICIPATION!

MEMO FROM THE PRESIDENT



PRESIDENT'S LOG

Frankly my log has been pretty bare lately, with the high bands in such poor shape, and a quad lying all over my front yard. Still on 20 & 80 though fighting the QRN & QRM. A review of last meeting appears elsewhere in this RAG. Must say very best ever!! Tnx to Ernie W9MAP and the rest of the OLDE TYMERS. For our May meeting we plan to delve into the mysteries of ANTENNAS as requested by many. We have scheduled an ARRL film on Standing Waves and have been in contact with the HY-GAIN people for a promotional film from their library. Plan to have a question and answer session too, so bring your problems along-hi.

COMING ATTRACTIONS: Field Day 1973 is just around the corner, scheduled for June 23 & 24. Tom Silletti WB9KXZ has accepted the appointment of Field Day Director. He will need a site manager for all equipment organization and an operations manager to schedule and train operators; all club members are expected to participate. Volunteers may be appointed. Any one interested in a wire beam on 80 meters and a quad on 40? More on this at our meeting.

We had a rip snorting board meeting at WB9HHH's QTH this month- result a slight change in emphasis. Seems our programming has neglected the VHF world, we apologize if that was your impression. Our present membership stands at 66; I suspect we are heavy on the low bands- can't tell yet, you have not all returned your questionnaire. To achieve our goal of 100 members we must not forget the operations on 6 & 2 meters. There seems to be a gap in the Amateur ranks between these groups. We are going to try and close that gap; if we don't bet we have another ham club in town some day. I sincerely believe Rockford cannot support two good amateur organizations. We are having trouble with manpower right now with 66 members. Could use a Program Manager, a TVI committee, a contest Director, and a Historian just to name a few duties now handled by your officer group. Back to the point. Recognizing this problem we decided that the June meeting will be on "The World Above 50 MC" A slide presentation with tape prepared by the ARRL. Hope this gets us on the right track with all you hams specializing in VHF.

Tnx & 73's de WB9IOG



* 1973 ARRL FIELD DAY *

THIS FURIOUSLY PACED EVENT, THE ANNUAL NATION-WIDE TEST OF EMERGENCY POWERED AMATEUR STATIONS, HAS BEEN A MAJOR COMPETITIVE ACTIVITY OF RARA FOR MANY YEARS. THIS YEAR, THE AIR TIME WILL RUN 27 HOURS STRAIGHT THROUGH FROM 1 PM JUNE 23 TO 4 PM SUNDAY JUNE 24. WE WILL BE SET UP OUT OF DOORS, HOPEFULLY IN A PUBLIC PARK. OPERATION IS ALLOWED ON ALL BANDS AND LICENSE CLASSIFICATIONS, CW AND VOICE. FULL DETAILS AND RULES ARE GIVEN IN THE MAY 1973 ISSUE OF QST, PAGE 80.

AT THE MAY MEETING, WE WILL BE ASKING FOR YOUR HELP AND SUPPORT FOR THIS IMPORTANT CLUB ACTIVITY. WE WILL BE AFTER, IN PARTICULAR:

1. RECEIVING AND TRANSMITTING EQUIPMENT.
2. POWER GENERATORS.
3. ANTENNAS.
4. SHELTER - (TRAILER, CAMPER, TENT, ETC.)
5. CREW TO SET UP AND TEAR DOWN.
6. OPERATORS FOR CW AND PHONE, ALL CLASSES.
7. RECORD KEEPERS.
8. PUBLIC RELATIONS, HOSPITALITY, COMMISSARY.

PLEASE BRING YOUR IDEAS FOR DISCUSSION AT THE MAY MEETING, OR IF YOU CAN'T BE THERE, PHONE ME AT 877-0306.

TOM - WB9KXZ

FIELD DAY DIRECTOR.

THE WORLD OF "FUNNY MODULATION"

In these days of ORM, QRO, "California Kilowatts" and other assorted goodies, it's a real joy to pull the plug on the "Old Rock Crusher" and flip on the world of FM (The Fun Mode).

Just a few years ago, the surplus market was full of business-band equipment which became obsolete due to the new FCC narrow band regulations. It was cheaper for the business to sell these rigs and buy new ones than to convert them to FCC specs. So the Hams found the rigs readily available and 2 meter FM was on its way in. A few years later, after this big move was made, some Ham equipment companies who until recently would have nothing to do with 2 meters found an opportunity to get in on the profits. Now we also have some rigs on the market designed just for 2 meter operation. They are good rigs and we're glad to have them available.

With all of this gear in use, Hams still found that the range was sort of short on two. Then someone came up with the idea, "How about a device to retransmit or repeat our signals?" Thus began the repeater age. The repeater is a device used to pick up a signal on one frequency and send it back out on a second; It can extend a station's range by several miles. The repeater finds a good share of use in mobile or portable work where the range of the station alone is not as long as it could be.

Two meters proved its worth just a few short days ago during the spring floods. CD used 2 meters for all RACES operations. Using the CD repeater, 2 base stations, one station in the CD trailer and several mobiles communications which were vitally needed were maintained throughout the county. This is just one example of the fantastic systems that have been set up on 2 meters around the country.

Two meters is an entirely different world of communications in itself. The people you meet are various. One may find himself helping a mobile who is in a strange town find his way around. There could be a need for reliable local communications in an emergency. You might even run across an aeronauticle mobile flying over the area, or just talking to friends for fun!

Why not give 2 meter FM a try? You might like it!

73,
DE WB9HGZ

NOVICE



HEY, YOU GUYS WHO ARE TIMID ABOUT GETTING ON THE AIR - -
WORRIED ABOUT SLOW CODE SPEED? SHAKEY FIST? PROCEDURE?

THE RARA HAS A THING GOING THAT WILL SURELY HELP YOU GAIN
PROFICIENCY WITHOUT EMBARRASSMENT WHILE HAVING FUN DOING IT.

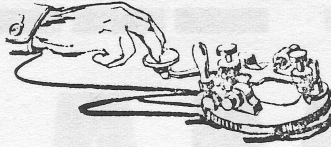
THE RARA SLOW SPEED CW NET IS COMPOSED OF YOUR FRIENDS WHO
ARE MORE OR LESS IN THE SAME BOAT. IT IS OPEN TO EVERYONE,
NOT JUST RARA MEMBERS OR NOVICES. NET MEETS AT 7PM MONDAYS
AND THURSDAYS ON 21.178 KHZ BUT TUNES EITHER SIDE FOR XTAL
CONTROLLED STATIONS. RUNS AN HOUR OR SO. ANYONE WHO GETS
CARRIED AWAY AND EXCEEDS 8 OR 9 WPM GETS CALLED FOR IT.
MISTAKES ARE FREQUENT BUT NEVER CRITICIZED. IF YOU HAVE
PROBLEMS, THE LAND LINE IS AVAILABLE FOR HELP. FRIENDLY
CHATTER IS THE MENU - NOTHING PROFOUND.

AT LEAST, LISTEN IN FOR A SAMPLE. THAT MUCH DOES NOT
COMMIT YOU. THEN, WHEN NET CONTROL CALLS "QNI??" THAT'S
YOUR CUE TO REPORT IN AND JOIN THE FUN.

TRY IT - - - YOU'LL LIKE IT! BILL - WB9 KOS (877-2315)

We don't think Wayne Green of "73" mag will mind if we
snitch the content of an item in his April issue. The gist
of it is this. The FAA has produced a radio spectrum chart
showing frequency uses all the way to 300 GHz. A copy can
be purchased for 40 cents. Send to U. S. Government Printing
Office, Washington D. C. 20402. Ask for FAA Electromagnetic
Spectrum Chart, # TD 4.27:E12.

De WB9HHH



* * * * * RARA ALUMNUS MAKES BIG HEADLINES * * * * *

PETE GRILLO, FORMERLY W9LVY, WHO MOVED TO CALIFORNIA ABOUT TWO YEARS AGO, INITIATED A LIFE-SAVING MISSION THAT WAS FEATURED IN THE MARCH 5 ISSUES OF THE LOS ANGELES TIMES, HERALD EXAMINER, AND THE ARCADIA TRIBUNE. THE TIMES CARRIED A HEADLINE 1½" HIGH. HERE'S THE STORY, COPIED FROM THE ARCADIA TRIBUNE:

"A YOUNG HEMOPHILIAC BLEEDING IN A GUATAMALA CITY HOSPITAL PROBABLY HAS BEEN SAVED, PARTLY BY EFFORTS OF AN ARCADIAN, PETER GRILLO, A HAM RADIO OPERATOR.

"THE MAN WAS INJURED IN A TRAFFIC ACCIDENT WEDNESDAY AND DOCTORS HAD TO AMPUTATE HIS LEG BUT DID NOT HAVE THE RIGHT DRUG TO STEM THE FLOW OF BLOOD, ALTHOUGH THEY WERE GIVING HIM PLASMA.

"HIS PLIGHT BECAME KNOWN WHEN ANNA MALDONADO CONTACTED THE ARCADIA HAM. AS SHE WAS TALKING TO HIM, TELLING OF THE MEDICINE SHORTAGE, ANOTHER HAM, HAROLD WALKER OF CANOGA PARK, TUNED IN ON THE FREQUENCY. FORTUNATELY, HE KNEW A DOCTOR.

"WALKER SUMMONED DR. DON MICHAELSON AND PUT HIM ON THE RADIO. HE DETERMINED THE INJURED MAN, GERMAN DANIEL CORSO, 20, NEEDED A DRUG CALLED 'PROPLEX' WHICH COULD BE OBTAINED FROM A LABORATORY IN GLENDALE.

"THE PROBLEM NOW FACING THE MEN WAS HOW TO GET THE MEDICINE TO GUATAMALA IN TIME TO DO ANY GOOD. AFTER A FEW CALLS TO MILITARY INSTALLATIONS, WALKER FOUND A FLIGHT COULD NOT BE AUTHORIZED EXCEPT BY A HIGH OFFICIAL.

"HE THEN CALLED WASHINGTON AND GOT THROUGH TO HERBERT KLEIN, WHITE HOUSE DIRECTOR OF COMMUNICATIONS, WHO WAS ABLE TO GET AUTHORIZATION FOR A FLIGHT OF A C-130 FROM TRAVIS AIR BASE.

"MICHAELSON BOUGHT THE DRUGS, TOOK THEM TO HOLLYWOOD-BURBANK AIRPORT WHERE THE PLANE WAS WAITING TO FLY THEM TO CENTRAL AMERICA.

"IT WAS LATER LEARNED FROM KLEIN THAT PRESIDENT NIXON HIMSELF HAD APPROVED THE USE OF THE PLANE FROM TRAVIS AIR FORCE BASE AND ORDERED AIR FORCE OFFICERS TO CUT ALL RED TAPE INVOLVED IN GETTING THE PLANE AND ITS CARGO TO GUATAMALA.

"GRILLO WAS UNAVAILABLE FOR COMMENT TODAY."

RARA PROUDLY CONGRATULATES PETE, ANNA, HAROLD, DR. DON, AND HERB FOR THEIR QUICK THINKING AND COMPETENT ACTION, ADDING ANOTHER OUTSTANDING ACCOMPLISHMENT TO THE HISTORY OF HAM RADIO. AND OUR BEST WISHES TO DAN CORSO FOR A GOOD RECOVERY.

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
(ALSO HAM-M ROTOR)

FOR SALE:

DX60B XMTR. \$65, HG10B VFO \$35.
GR 64 Short Wave Receiver \$32.

Heath Balun Coil B1 \$5. Lectron
Series #3 Educational Kit \$15.
Archer Code Record 33 1/3 RPM \$2.

Manuals for all items above.

Call Ralph, WB9HHH
at 964-8736

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



FIRST CLASS