

HAM RAG

Affiliated with ARRL

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



OCTOBER ISSUE, 1973

NEXT MEETING WILL BE HELD
FRIDAY, OCTOBER 12, 7:30 P M
ROCK VALLEY COLLEGE

IMPORTANT NOTICE

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ELECTION OF OFFICERS FOR 1974 WILL BE HELD DURING THE OCTOBER 12TH MEETING. A BETTER-THAN-USUAL TURNOUT IS NEEDED TO GET THE REQUIRED NUMBER OF VOTES. BESIDES, IT IS GOING TO BE AN UNUSUALLY INTERESTING MEETING AND YOU MIGHT BE SORRY IF YOU MISS IT. SO PLEASE TRY EXTRA HARD TO ATTEND!

ROCKFORD AMATEUR RADIO ASSOCIATION, INC.

P. O. Box 1744, Rockford, Illinois 61108

1973 BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Ray Lenburg, WB9ILH, 399-7733

Mike Souhrada, WB9IOG, 1-874-4646

Ralph Shaff, WB9HHH, 964-8736

Clyde Aspling, WB9KOT, 1-874-2330

Jack Stuman, K9UWN, 399-3890

Lee Gehlhausen, WA9WVY, 399-3716

Bill Ridgway, WB9KOS, 877-2315

Dick Connors, WB9IED, 877-7722

Your suggestions and criticisms are invited - phone any time.

Sic Transit!

Some of our Club members perhaps are not aware that Erl, WA9WMI, is moving away from Rockford. His many friends will miss his cheerful voice as NC on the Professional Loafers Club as well as his participation in other amateur radio activities. Erl leaves us for the Mesa, Arizona area and a nice, new, QTH. We wish him all the happiness and luck he can stand in his new home. He can be reached as follows after Oct. 13, 1973.

ERL MALMER, WA9WMI / 7
2032 E. BIRCHWOOD,
MESA, ARIZ. 85204.

ERL says you may contact him on the air every day of the week (until further notice) after the Oct 13, date, beginning at 1400 GMT, (9:00 A.M. Chicago time) on 14.280 MHz.

Good luck es 73 om.
de K9UWN.

ABOUT GUNNY OHLSON

Adr: 9709 Nadine

Temple City, Ca. 91780

Sked: K9WTS/6 - 14.335 +-

Sundays, 11 - 12 - 1 Rfd Time.

Blue Name Tags have been made for:

RAY W9VTL CONNIE K9DJG

BILL WA9GRN LUCY W9USR

BILL WN9MIA

Please see Clyde and bring \$1.50.

He also takes new orders.

MEMO FROM THE PRESIDENT



President's Log

Our September meeting was an unqualified success with approximately 30 members and guests attending. George Stinson our featured speaker presented an overview of the most important part of a successful radio installation, the antenna system. It was enjoyed by all. I'm sorry we had so much business to cover as George could have used more time. Our thanks to George for the fine presentation.

During the meeting I brought up a subject I feel quite strongly about; the past practice of the Xmas dinner funding. I have felt this to be a mis-application of club funds, notwithstanding the social values of such a dinner. The real question I raise is, is this a ham radio club, or a dinner club? If the former, then the major portion of revenues must support an objective befitting that goal. We will have a dinner this year, we plan to have one next year, but you will be expected to pay for a proper share of the cost.

Frankly, there are few enticements to join a club such as R.A.R.A. there should be a lot more! Proper use of the club funds can act as an attracton to new members and keep old ones active if properly used. It seems that a few members belong solely for the dinner. An active club cannot be built on this kind of participant. In keeping with this philosophy the club authorized the solicitation of equipment donations for a club station primarily, but not limited to, the novice group. If a donation cannot be obtained your board of directors has authorized the sum of \$150 to be spent for this purpose. Rules have been established for use of this equipment so, skeptics don't panic yet. Furthermore, we have arranged for a novice level class of technical instruction as covered elsewhere in this issue of the RAG. This is in keeping with the educational mission of R.A.R.A. and needs a lot more attention and activity now, or we could simply dry up from attrition.

You may not agree with me. I don't mind a bit. If you want to change the club to your idea of what R.A.R.A. ought to be fine. Then run for an office at the October meeting. Self appointed nominations for positions will be accepted by Bill Ridgway. Get involved.

73's de WB9IOG Mike Souhrada

NEWS AND VIEWS FROM THE
WORLD ABOVE 50 MHz

As summer draws to a close and the bands undergo their regular changes, VHF activity also undergoes some of its own changes. The six meter "Rag Chewer's Net" is picking up with several more check ins than usual in the summer. Newcomers to the net include: Dave, WB9HPV; and Dick, WB9JED. Welcome to the six meter band! By the way, if you would like to check in to the net, it is on every night at 2100 hours local time. (That's 9:00 at night for the lids reading this) You will find the net on 50.4 six meter AM. So why not brush the dust off the ol' 6 meter rig and join in?

Two meter FM is going great guns as usual. There have been several new voices lately and it worked out very well at the Hamfest. Speaking of hamfest and two meters all in one breath, if you were there, you'd know there was a lot of two meter gear bought and sold there. I picked up a Motorola rig and am awaiting Xtals for 94. (One more 2 mtr. rig for the collection)

EMERGENCY! There has been some interest shown in a six meter emergency net on Mondays. It has been tried a few times, and so far has not had an over abundance of check ins. (Probably due to the fact it is not known to many people yet) It is run from the Red Cross at 2000 hours local on 50.4. If enough interest is shown, we can keep this service up.

Last on the news list, Art WB9HNJ purchased another APX-6. He is now in the process of converting it and is planning some distance tests in the near future. Best of luck in your research into the 1296 band, Art!

In closing, I'd like to invite anyone who has some news, views or anything of interest about VHF to get in touch with me so that we can get the word out to the rest of the Hams in the area. We'd like to hear from YOU!

73 till next time,

DE WB9HGZ

FEATURE

NET INFORMATION

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1. ROCKFORD TEN METER EMERGENCY NET - SSB + A LITTLE AM
MEETS EVERY MONDAY - 9:00 PM LOCAL TIME - 28.700 MHz

This net is for an equipment check, local scuttle butt, reports on RARA activities, but especially to be ready for any actual emergency or disaster. It is run from the Red Cross Station, W9RGU, and controlled in a capable and friendly manner by Ernie Storer, W9MAP. In case Ernie can not make it, the net can be called and controlled by any local station, and this happens occasionally.

There is a controlled check-in for any stations that want to participate, and new-comers are very welcome. This is not a roll-call, because the participants change from week to week. They number from five to 25 stations, with a dozen being about average. Once the check-in is completed, stations are called in sequence with breaks for late arrivals. This is the controlled scuttlebutt segment. When everyone has contributed his remarks (usually in about an hour) the frequency is released for informal rag chewing or whatever. Depending on propagation, stations in remote parts of the country have joined in the fun.

The Red Cross Station, the Net, and RARA were all started in about 1951. W9RGU and its net participants have served well in a number of emergencies including the Belvidere tornado, several floods, and from portable stations on the scene. Practise on the net has developed some smooth and efficient operators for these situations.

28.7 is a good place to meet your friends on a regular basis.

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2. ILLINOIS POST OFFICE NET - (ILPON) - SSB - DAILY - 2145Z - 3.915 MHz
ALSO SUN 1330Z, 3.915 MHz; TUES THUR SAT 0100Z, 145.5 MHz

The Illinois Post Office Net is primarily a traffic handling net, originally started by Post Office employees, but now open to any ham who is willing to participate in a reasonable number of sessions monthly. It is part of a national organization, sponsored and run by the United States Postal Service.

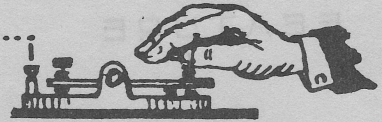
Traffic consists mainly of messages originated by service men from military posts, and destined for local delivery. In a typical recent month, 81 Illinois stations participated in 48 sessions, with 1109 check-ins and 312 messages handled. Maury Nelson W9FL and Rudy Benander K9KLY are regular participants, and Maury handled 11 messages during the month mentioned. Recipients of these messages frequently express deep gratitude for this fine Amateur Radio Service.

Performance figures, listing individuals, are given in a monthly news letter sent to members. Headquarters offers members message blanks, a zip-code directory, and a thick manual on the national organization and recommended procedures.

If you would be interested in traffic handling with a really professional (but not stuffy) group, try listening to a few sessions.

WB9KOS

NOVICE



THERE IS GOING TO BE A CLASS FOR BEGINNING AMATEURS

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Following several discussions between RARA and Rock Valley College, we are happy to announce that Rock Valley has agreed to conduct a class in basic radio for beginning amateurs. The subject matter will not only cover the material necessary to qualify for a Novice license, but will offer enough technology so that you can understand why the answers are so.

Classes will begin on October 20th. The exceptional laboratory facilities of Rock Valley College will be used. Vito Fiore, K9UCM, will conduct the class, and his experience both in radio and in teaching virtually guarantees success for those who take the course.

Details will be announced at the October 12th meeting of RARA. If you know of anyone who is interested, please bring him to this very important meeting.



Congratulations: Just as the Ham Rag was going to press, we learned that Clyde, WB9KOT, passed his General Class exam in Chicago on Friday Sept. 28. Best wishes and many QSO's Clyde!

de K9UWN

THE RARA PICNIC

On Saturday, July 14, the RARA picnic was held in Alpine Park. The threatening weather cleared just in time for the undaunted to gather for food, fun, and for such congenial conversation that it outlasted the food by about three hours! Paul Klein's mobile rig was a popular attraction. The group, no doubt attenuated by the threat of rain, included:

W9FL Maury and XYL	WB9LEF Duane and XYL
WN9KOL Randy and XYL	WB9HHH Ralph and XYL
WN9KOR Earl and XYL	Mrs. K9UCM Vicki
WN9IST John and XYL	K9SAN Chuck
K9VJJ Paul and XYL	K9ORU Mike
K9LUX Larry and XYL	WA9BLI Fred

. . . and many little harmonics.

Among many tasty dishes, two were especially outstanding, and the recipes for these are reproduced here for the benefit of our XYL readers who want to prepare a treat for the OM. The corn dish is by courtesy of K9ORU's mother, and the potato salad by WN9IST.

SCALLOPED CORN (Makes 6 servings)

1 #2 can cream style corn	3 tablespoons green pepper chopped fine
1/2 cup milk	3 tablespoons pimiento chopped fine
1 cup cracker crumbs	Salt and pepper to taste
1/2 small onion chopped fine	2 tablespoons melted butter or margarine

Combine all ingredients except melted butter. Pour into greased casserole. Spread melted butter on top, sprinkle with paprika. Bake in 350 degree oven for 30 minutes. For double recipe, bake 45 minutes.

GERMAN POTATO SALAD (Makes 4 servings)

4 medium size potatoes, boiled and peeled	1 teaspoon salt
4 slices bacon	1 tablespoon sugar
1/4 cup finely chopped onion	1/2 cup water
1 tablespoon flour	1 egg, beaten
1 teaspoon powdered dry mustard	1/4 cup vinegar

Fry the bacon until crisp, then chop it.

Using two tablespoons of the bacon fat, blend in the flour, mustard, salt, and sugar. Cook until golden brown. Stir in the water. Boil 2 minutes.

Add about 2 tablespoons of this hot mixture to the beaten egg, then stir this into the rest of the mixture. Add the vinegar and reheat.

Slice the hot potatoes, pour the hot dressing over them, and mix in the chopped bacon.

TRADER'S CORNER

**WANTED: HW16 TRANSCEIVER AND HG10B VFO
CALL JACK, K9UWN - 399-3890**

**FOR SALE:
EICO 720 TRANSMITTER, EXCELLENT, WITH RELAY,
CRYSTALS, AND EXTRA RECTIFIER TUBE - - - \$55.00
MIKE - WB9IOG - - - 1-874-4646**

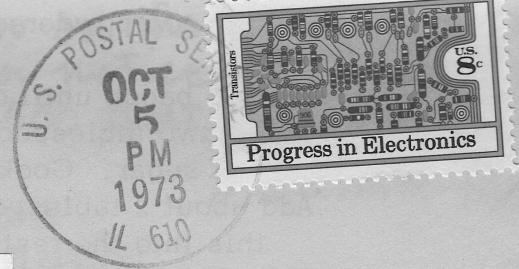
**WANTED: SIX METER RIG, Benton Harbor Lunch Box
or similar. Must go easy on my budget.
Phone Tom Silletti, WB9KXZ, 877-0306.**

**I WANT TO GET BACK ON THE AIR!
Need low priced CW gear with VFO
Phone Harris Anderson, K9PDZ, 964-3850**

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



**Paul Dean - WB9HGZ
317 Shaw Street
Rockford, Ill. 61108**



FIRST CLASS