

# HAM RAG

Affiliated with ARRL

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



SEPTEMBER ISSUE, 1973

NEXT MEETING WILL BE HELD  
FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 14, 7:30 PM  
ROCK VALLEY COLLEGE, ROOM 222

## ANTENNAS

We are indeed fortunate to have George Stinson, W9KDK, again, as the featured speaker for our September 14th meeting. "ANTENNAS AND ANTENNA SYSTEMS" will be his subject. This most important part of every amateur station is only one phase of ham radio lore that George is eminently qualified to cover in depth.

George has been actively involved in radio signal propagation and transmission for over 42 years. He favors the CW mode on 40 and 80 meters, but is well versed in all modes and aspects of our mutual interest.

DON'T MISS THIS OPPORTUNITY TO ADD TO YOUR KNOWLEDGE OF ANTENNA SYSTEMS!

de K9UWN

ROCKFORD AMATEUR RADIO ASSOCIATION, INC.  
P. O. Box 1744, Rockford, Illinois 61108

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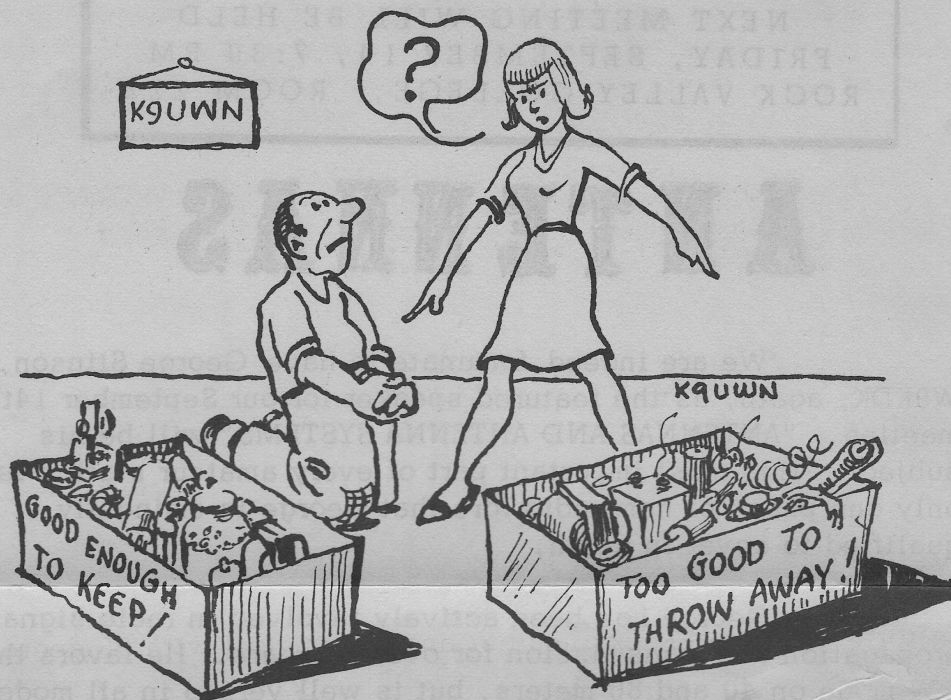
Your suggestions and criticisms are invited - phone any time.

HAM RAG SALUTES UPGRADERS

\* \* \* \* \*

MIKE OBERG - WN9JAU - NOVICE TO GENERAL

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THE JUNK BOX DILEMMA

ABOUT GUNNY OHLSON  
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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



It's been a busy summer. Sorry I missed the June meeting. Hear it was extremely well received. Paul Dean drew a few arcs from his Tesla Coil, and Art Nelson actually got a pair of APX-6's on 1215 MHz. At the time, I was a /7 operating out of Yellowstone National Park; got back to WB9HHH a couple of times.

Next big event was Field Day. We didn't place -- don't think Tom Silletti even added up W9AXD's score, but we all had a ball. Very good coverage by TV channels 13 and 23, beside the newspaper. Best public relations for RARA ever! That was our plan. Next year, points?

July was pretty dead. Rig got the flu, antenna not up, and DX was poor. I missed the picnic, so can't report on that.

August was another matter. We expected a real bang-up effort on the Bel-Rock Hamfest and got it. All with 95 degrees and 97% humidity - boy, it was HOT! We were all so pooped no one wanted to count the money. Clubs grossed about \$1,300 - not sure what the gain was yet. Looks like the most successful Hamfest here to date. Lots of people. Even ran out of hot dogs. Saw some real good deals. Our Club table sold more than \$235 of gear. I finally got a Ham-M at my price (Not publishable). \$50

Must QRT. Don't forget the September 14th meeting at Rock Valley College, 7:30 pm. George Stinson will be back with a favorite subject of his, "Antennas".

73's, CUL - WB9IOG Mike.

FIELD DAY, 1973

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This year's RARA participation in the annual ARRL Field Day was a little different from previous years when hot contestants like Pete Grillo and Gunny Ohlson were still in Rockford. Instead, responsibility for the whole works was assigned to young, relatively inexperienced members to see what they could do - - and they did a fine job!

Tom Silletti \*WB9KXZ was Manager, ably assisted by Paul Dean \*WB9HGZ, and Dick Connors \*WB9IED. Others who operated (\*) or visited:

*WN9KOR Earl Davis	WN9IST John Wacker	K9QYY Jay Hart
*K9KGV Lloyd Kissick	WB9ILH Ray Lenburg	WA9BWK Dale Veline
*WB9HHH Ralph Shaff	WB9HPV Dave Larsen	WB9KOS Bill Ridgway
*WB9LEF Duane Hyland	K9SAN Chuck Derwent	WN9MMM Gene Harlan
*WB9IOG Mike Souhrada	WB9KOT Clyde Aspling	

. . . . and our apologies to those we may have missed.

A site was selected in Aldeen Park, near the dam, with the permission of the Park Board. It was a pleasant location, accessible to the public, but not very hot for propagation. Ground mounted verticals and a dipole about the right height for an electric fence were used. They were not located in the best possible place because this would have meant driving supports and ground rods through rock.

Tents, courtesy of Ray and Mike housed three HF rigs and a 2-meter. Red Cross supplied the generator, which was carried to the site in Chuck's trusty carry-all. Most of the set-up was done on Saturday morning, June 23, in a pouring rain. About the time everything was ready, the rain stopped for the duration, and it turned cold.

Operations began at 1 pm Saturday, and ran straight through until 1 pm Sunday. During this time, about 305 contacts were made. While the results fell a bit short of sensational, everyone gained in experience with emergency conditions, while having a very good time. Young hams and old guys alike learned what to do, what not to do, and how to do a better job next time. That, of course, was the whole idea.

Hamburgers from Ray, donuts from Ralph, and soft drinks and candy from Duane were especially appreciated by the crew.

WB9KXZ via KOS

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SOME GUYS ARE JUST TOO MODEST!

\* \* \* \* \*

HAM RAG had to learn from September QST that RARA Member  
JIM DUNLEA, WN9KZQ

. . . was fourth in Illinois in this year's Novice Roundup.  
Our belated but sincere congratulations to Jim!

## A PROPOSED CHANGE IN THE RARA CONSTITUTION

At the regular meeting in June, with 23 of 81 members present, it was recognized that our Constitution does not clearly specify the dates of the beginning and end of an official year of operations. January 1 to December 31 has long been accepted informally. Other dates were discussed but no valid reasons for these other dates were presented. It was the opinion of the members present that January 1 to December 31 should be formally included in the Constitution.

It was also recognized that to have newly elected officers assume their duties immediately when elected gives them no time to become familiar with their work, to plan activities properly in advance, nor to prepare their first issue of the Ham Rag effectively. Therefore, it was proposed that the Constitution be changed so that the election of officers take place at the November meeting, in time so that they can make a smooth transition on January 1.

Article III, Section 2, now reads: " The officers of this club shall be elected from the full members at large by the members present, provided there be a quorum at the first meeting of the calendar year."

\*

It is proposed that this article be revised to read:

Section 2. The officers of this club shall be elected from the full membership at large, at the October regular meeting, provided there be a quorum present or represented in writing, and the newly elected officers shall assume their duties on January 1 of the following year.

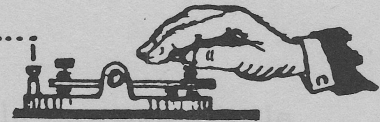
It is further proposed that an additional section, to be called Section 5, be written under Article III of the Constitution as follows:

Section 5. The official year of operations shall extend from January 1 to December 31.

Adoption of the proposed changes requires approval by a majority of the total membership. The average meeting attendance is less than a majority. Your approval is important, so if you can not attend the September meeting in person, please mail your vote several days before the meeting to Bill Ridgway, WB9KOS, 2420 Shady Lane, Rockford, Ill. 61107

\* Our Constitution defines a quorum as 1/3 of the total membership.

# NOVICE



## NOVICE AND BEGINNER

Immediately after adjournment of the September meeting, all hams who are interested in re-activating the Slow Speed Net will get together to plan for the season now starting. This net will be run by Novice members of RARA, but will be open to all license grades and to non-members who wish to participate. Details on time, frequency, speed, net control, and the program for building proficiency in CW and net operation will be worked out at this meeting. Last season it was a lot of fun despite being run in a hit - or - miss fashion, but with an established program, it should be even more fun, and constructive, too.

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### SUGGESTED OFFICER CANDIDATES

PRESIDENT \_\_\_\_\_

VICE PRES \_\_\_\_\_

TREASURER \_\_\_\_\_

SECRETARY \_\_\_\_\_

During the September meeting, slips like the above will be passed to the members present, so each of you can express your preferences for a slate of officers for the coming year. Since they are anonymous, you may recommend yourself without embarrassment. The President will appoint a nominating committee at the September meeting. After reviewing your suggestions and obtaining the consent of the candidates in accordance with our constitution, the committee will present nominations at the October meeting, and the election will take place at the November meeting, provided the Constitutional Amendment outlined elsewhere in this issue is approved.

Your participation is important, so if you can not attend the meeting in September, please mail your suggestions before the September meeting to: Bill Ridgway, WB9KOS, 2420 Shady Lane, Rockford, Ill. 61107.

## HERE'S SOME DOPE ON NETS

At our last meeting, in June, much interest was expressed on the subjects of nets. Two things in particular were behind this enthusiasm. One was a desire for information on nets that are popular in this part of the country. The other was to publicize some that you are already enjoying.

For these reasons, **HAM RAG** plans to publish data on some of the most interesting nets, two in each of the next three issues. Beside time and frequency, coverage will include such things as purpose, nature of traffic, who participates, and notable accomplishments.

Some are serious, disciplined, and very professional. Some are for rag chewing and general fun. Others still are for genuine emergency work, and those designed for beginners to develop skill. We will try to cover the best of each type.

Below is an arbitrarily selected list of nets that might be of local interest. From these, about a half dozen will be selected for full treatment in later issues. But if you have a pet net that you would like others to know about, please phone Bill, WB9KOS, 877-2315, and help work it out.

Thanks to some able assistance from W9FL, W9MAP, and WB9HHH here is brief tabulated data on a few nets of local interest:

<u>NAME</u>	<u>FREQ</u>	<u>TIME</u>	<u>DAYS</u>	<u>MODE</u>	<u>CHARACTER</u>
Rkfd 10m Emerg	28.700	9:00P	Mondays	SSB	Semi-formal
Prof Loafers Club	7.261	9:00A	MTWTF	SSB	Rag Chewing
MIDCARS	7.258	8:00A	Daily	SSB	Mobile QSO's
Breakfast Club	3.973	5:00A	Daily	SB+CW	Rag chewing
Early Birds	3.940	4:00A	Daily	SSB	Tfc+Rag Chew
Winn Co. RACES	147.300	8:00P	Mondays	2mFM	Emergency Tfc.
State Line Rag	50.400	9:00 P	Daily	6mAM	Rag Chewing
Handicappers	14.287	10:00A	MTWTF	SSB	Informal
Shrine	21.447	1:00P	Sundays	SSB	Semi-formal
Square+Compass	7.230	9:00A	Sundays	SSB	Semi-formal
Ill Emergency	3.940	8:00A	Sundays	SSB	Traffic+Emerg
ILPON	3.915	8:30A	Ex. Sun	SSB	Traffic
ILPON	50.280	9:00P	Mondays		
ILPON	145.500	9:00P	MWF		
Ill Weather	3.940	6:00P	Daily	SSB	Roll call + Wx

TRADER'S CORNER

WANTED: Paddle and straight key combination,  
I. C. Automatic Keyer, no memory.  
Phone Bill, WB9KOS, 877-2315.

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

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

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



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



FIRST CLASS