

THE HAM RAG

DECEMBER ISSUE, 1974

Affiliated with ARRL



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

Program:

R. A. R. A. CHRISTMAS PARTY

* * * * *

DATE: SATURDAY, DECEMBER 14, 1974

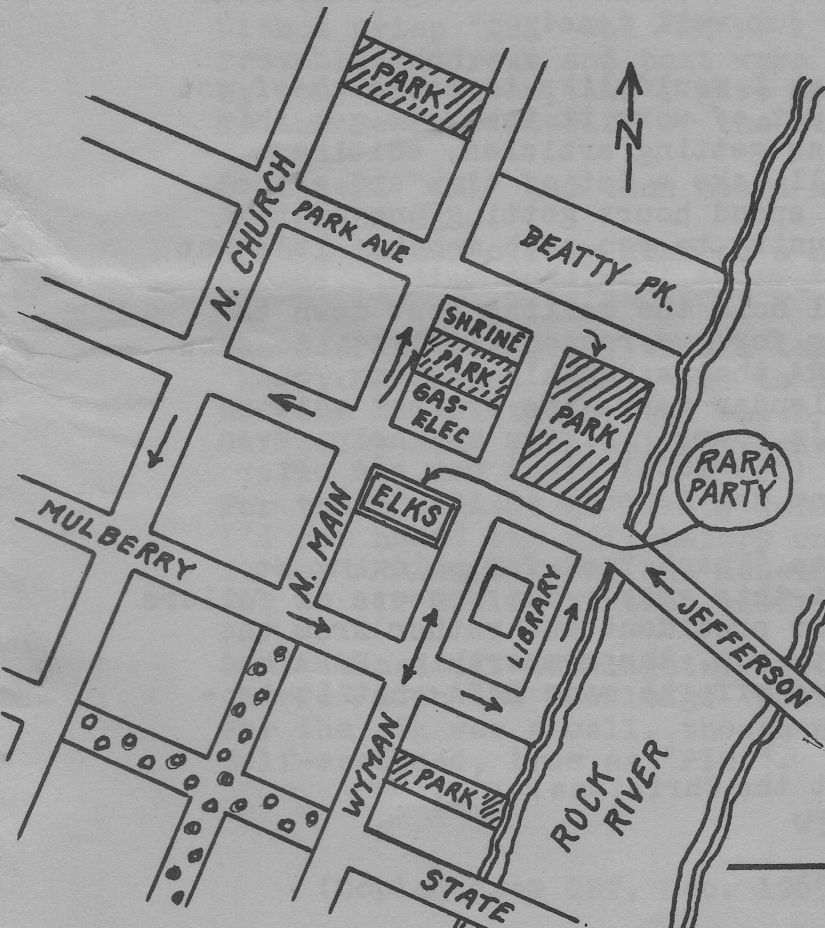
PLACE: ROCKFORD ELKS CLUB

TIME: COCKTAILS -- 6:00 PM

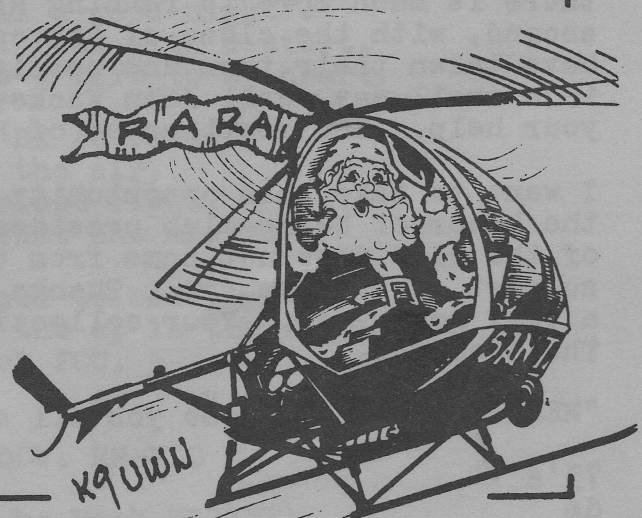
DINNER --- 7:00 PM

See map below for location of party and nearby parking. Ring front door bell. Open when attendant buzzes the lock release. Go DOWN the steps to our reserved cloak room, bar, and dining room.

John Wacker and Clyde Aspling will meet you at the dining room door to check reservations, and collect \$5.75 for guests of members. They will also be pleased to collect your 1975 dues of \$5.00.



1974
MEMBERSHIP
DIRECTORY



ROCKFORD AMATEUR RADIO ASOC. INC.
P.O. Box 1744, Rockford, Ill. 61110

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Clyde Aspling

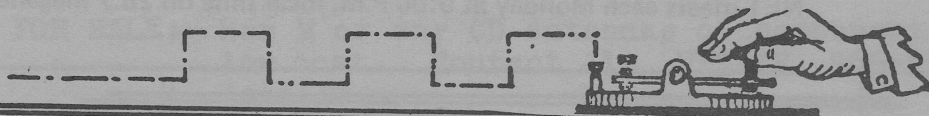
Al Lund

Jim McNaught

WB9KOT-1-874-2330

W9PAE - 398-2699

WB9MJO- 877-5966



PRESIDENT'S LOG

Well, we're at the end of another year and a good year it was. As I look back over the last twelve months I see many outstanding achievements made by our club. I would like to take this opportunity to cite just a couple of them.

Field Day turned into a great success after a major disappointment just an hour before the appointed time. We placed first in our class. This event is a perfect example of teamwork and an all out effort made by members of our club.

Another big event on the club calendar was Hamfest. That well-planned and executed event was the best one so far, and made the club treasury solvent for another year. As you all know Hamfest is the life blood of our club, and the proceeds from it make most of the other club activities possible. Congratulations again, to both committees, for a job well done!

As you read this issue of Ham Rag, I would like to ask each of you to consider for a moment the amount of work it takes to get this club paper to you. Such things as getting articles, editing, typing, printing, and mailing, all take a lot of time and effort. The editors of Ham Rag literally spend hours getting one of the best radio club papers in the country to you each month. It's not by chance that the paper is eight pages long, but rather, that's the maximum we can mail and still hold the mailing cost down to 10¢ per issue. I mention Ham Rag for two reasons. First, to show there is much more to running RARA than a monthly meeting, and second, with the close of the calendar year, the present editors have taken their turn and now it's yours. If you can help, even in a small way, call John Wacker (399-1695) right now and offer your help. The continuance of Ham Rag depends on it.

I want to take this opportunity to "Thank You" for allowing me the honor of being club president this year. The success or failure of the club does not come from the president but rather from the support of its members. Thanks to you, the membership, RARA had a very good year. Your collective efforts made RARA what it is - The Greatest.

"MERRY CHRISTMAS", see you all at the Christmas Party.

73's

de

Dick WB9IED

ABOUT THE JANUARY MEETING - - - - -

Rock Valley College will be more or less closed down from mid-December until mid-January, with the heating plant running at reduced capacity, so the January meeting can not be held on the usual second Friday. Instead, it is scheduled for January 24th, the first available Friday. The February meeting probably will then be on February 14th. Watch Ham Rag for dates.



T'was the night before Christmas, and at last off the net,
My traffic was cleared and all schedules met;
The rig was shut down and all logging thru,
But the receiver (still on) whispered a signal or two.

I had just lit my pipe and stretched out my legs,
When I heard a strange call on 3.6 megs.
Conditions were poor, as usual, and rough,
With most signals fading, lost in the LUF.

But the op was persistent as he called MDD,
Repeatedly, patiently, with a terse "QTC",
So I turned on the rig and sent on my key,
His call and mine and a quick "QRV".

With a crisp "QSK" and "HR NR 1",
Preamble, address and text were begun.
My copy was clean, and I gave not a thought,
To the message itself, or the sig as I ought.

So I sent "QSL" and then heard him say,
"TU OM CU SK".
Then I turned off my gear on a now quiet band,
and started to read the message at hand.

The address was U.S., with a text rather trite,
"Merry Christmas to all and to all a good night".
But the sig at the bottom which I read with a start,
Filled my mind with delight, gave a lift to my heart.

For those signals so faint, were DX so rare,
I'd not heard the call before on the air.
It was bootleg I know, but nonetheless right,
For an air mobile station aloft that one night.

So I turned off the lights, tiptoed to bed,
Cheered with the knowledge 'bout the op in the sled.
For the sig was a call, though not FCC,
Self-assigned, true as "PLSC".

W3QCW, RM-MDD

(Copied from QST, Dec. 1965 by Mark WB9NFE)

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A SIMPLE MODIFICATION FOR BOOSTING THE OUTPUT POWER OF TUBE TYPE TRANSMITTERS

By Art Nelson WB9HNJ and Marsh Baker WB9FZU

A very simple modification to your output power can be made by any ham in less than ten minutes. All that it involves is the changing of a few components in your rig. Follow the directions given below and you can't fail.

1. If your rig uses a tube type rectifier, remove it and replace it with a silicon rectifier replacement.
2. Lift the power transformer high voltage center tap from ground and reconnect it to ground through a 21 ohm 10 watt resistor.
3. Replace the final amplifier screen resistor with a 10k ohm resistor of the same wattage as the original.

Load your transmitter in the usual manner. Plate current will be a little higher than usual but this is normal. With this modification made to my Globe transmitter which uses a 6146 in the final, my signal strength into Milwaukee went up two and one half S units. This modification has been extensively tested by Marsh and myself and will work with any transmitter which uses a tetrode or pentode final tube. If any questions arise as to the conversion, feel free to get in touch with me.

de WB9HNJ

Editor's note: Most of us at one time or another have responded to a call which requires us to give a little extra. Bill, WB9KOS does this on a day by day basis and with the many hours he spent on the up-date of RARA members, (name, addresses and calls), we think he deserves an extra special thanks, It may have meant more to the Ham Rag staff but it's a real handy ready reference for all of us, so let's give Bill a tip of the hat for a job well done!

W9NKQ es WB9LEF

R A R A DIRECTORY BY CALLS - - DECEMBER, 1974

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W9 GFN	Ed Field	W9 OVY	Eric Frank
WA9 GNC	Vernon Pearson	W9 PAE	Al Lund
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WA9 IYK	Bill Penn	W9 TET	Carol Carlson
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WB9 JAV	Steve Donaldson	K9 UCM	Vito Fiore
K9 JMW	Othel Andrews	W9 UCY	Bill Downing
K9 KCX	Bob Schmoock	K9 UIY	Vic Shields
W9 KDK	George Stinson	W9 USR	Lucy Hilpert
WN9 KED	George Fulop	K9 UWN	Jack Stuman
K9 KGV	Lloyd Kissick	K9 UWO	Frank Reiter
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WN9 KOQ	Don Wallgren	K9 VJJ	Paul Klein
WB9 KOR	Earl Davis	W9 VTL	Ray Swenson
WB9 KOS	Bill Ridgway	K9 VTV	Conrad Claeson
WB9 KOT	Clyde Aspling	W9 VZ	Claude Middleton
WB9 KZQ	Jim Dunlea	W9 WOQ	Fred Miner
K9 KZS	Evert Anderson	WA9 WVY	Lee Gehlhausen
K9 KZT	Larry Lisle	WA7 YFR	Erl Malmer
		W9 YRA	Al Friedman

TRADER'S CORNER

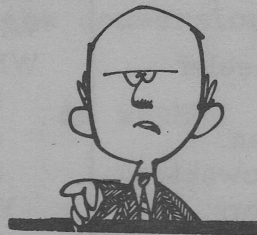
FOR SALE: Drake T4X, R4, MS4 speaker and power supply.
Very reasonable. Call Jack K9UWN, 399-3890

FOR SALE: Ham M or any CD antennas or components at
low cost. Contact Jim WB9ETH, 965-8811 for
details.

WANTED: 14AVT or similar trap vertical.
Jim WB9ETH, 965-8811.

FOR SALE: Clegg 99'er 6 meter with 5 crystals, \$50.
HQ-170 receiver, S-200 speaker, DX-60 transmitter,
(just rebuilt), WRL model 755 VFO (just rebuilt)
and TR switch (homebrew). Complete station \$200.
Also need power transformer, 1800-2000 v. @ .5 amps.
Call Jerry WB9LOM, 633-2345.

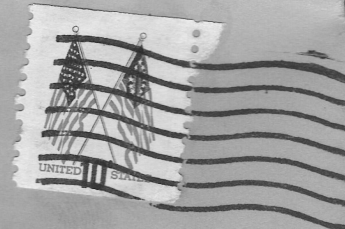
WANTED: Heath SB-610 signal monitor. Wattmeter for 6
meter operation, capable of handling 1000-1200
watts, P.E.P. Contact Mick W9NKQ, 399-7973.



ARE YOUR DUES PAID YET

\$5/yr

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



GREET
NEW
MEMBERS

Paul Dean, WB9HGZ
317 Shaw Street
Rockford, Il. 61108

FIRST CLASS

R.A.R.A.
CHRISTMAS PARTY

WHEN? : December 14, 1974
TIME? : Cocktails - 6:00 P.M.
 Dinner - 7:00 P.M.
WHERE? : Elks Club 210 W. Jefferson

R.A.R.A. will pay for members. Wives and sweet-
hearts are welcome. Price for their dinner will be
\$5.75, including tax and tips. Please return other
half of card whether or not you go. This will help
eliminate phone calls. Please return card by
December 6, 1974.