



HAM RAG

Affiliated with ARRL

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



CW NET meets each Sunday at 7:00 PM local time
on 21.150 megahertz

FEBRUARY ISSUE 1974

MEETING DATE
FEB. 8, 1974
7:30 pm RM 222
ROCK VALLEY COLLEGE

program:



How to load a 2" pipe
on 160 meters.....

i.e. a meeting on antenna tuners

Paul Johnson, W9BNO, will be on hand to explain antenna tuners and how they work. He will also give some helpful hints on putting up antennas in places that are hard to put them up in. Paul will bring his transmatch and Johnson matchbox to show.

This should be an interesting meeting as I have heard several guys talking about making antenna tuners. We would also like anyone already having a matching device to bring it along for everyone to see.

See you at the meeting!!!!

ROCKFORD AMATEUR RADIO ASSOCIATION, INC.
P. O. Box 1744, Rockford, Illinois 61110

1974 BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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Your suggestions and criticisms are invited - phone any time.

POTPOURRI

Duane, WB9LEF, has been in RMH for a while. Seems his heart got off resonance and needed professional attention. We were happy to hear Lucy, W9USR, and Connie K9DJG, check into the Monday 10M. net recently. Connie spins quite a tale about an imaginary yacht on a mythical lagoon near Winnebago. Paul, WB9HGZ, operates so expertly as NCS on W9RGU Mondays, that Ernie, W9MAP (in Florida for several weeks) might have to appeal for the NCS spot when he returns. Bill, WB9KOS, and our newest General license Jim, WB9kzq, are new on 2M. FM with HW202 Heathkits. It now takes two months or more from FCC exam date in Chicago to receipt of license. That's bad! The current edition of the ARRL license manual has a much improved question and answer layout. That's good! Bill, WB9KOS, has contributed many man hours keeping Vito, K9UOM, get the Collins-Henry 2K-t RVC station WB9K6R on the air. It's beautiful. Be sure to see it when you can. As of January 25th, it was rumored that call sign auto licenses would be in the mail in a few days. The unreasonably long delay was caused by a lawsuit involving the manufacturer in Freeport. If you are using the .13/.73 Genoa repeater have you mailed in your \$15.00 membership? Paul, WB9HGZ, has been showing the ARRL film "This is Ham Radio" and conducting "on the air" demonstrations of 2M. FM to some grade school classes in the city. Ralph, WB9HHH, just assembled a Heathkit IC2108 electronic calculator. A \$400, HP80 it ain't but the bright flashing lights are fascinating to watch when you punch switches multiplying 22x2 and come up with 44, silently. While Bud, WB9CHU vacations in Florida he keeps track of the donut factory by frequent contacts with Lee, WA9WVY, and Ray, WB9ILH.

"73"
de WB9HHH

SPECIAL!

Goran Nilsson, SM7AYB, associated with the Swedish TV and Radio group in Sweden, visited Rockford last summer gathering documentary material on Swedish Cultural Activities in America Today, for presentation on TV and Radio in Sweden. The following article, written by him, appeared in the August issue of QTC the QST of Swedish amateur radio. A photo also appeared with the article showing W9DDL and WB9ILH posed in front of Dennis's car showing his amateur call plate, hence the reference amateur plates in the article. The article, translated from Swedish, follows.

de WB9ILH

HÅLSA DEM DARHEMMA :

Greet them at home-so say the Swedish-Americans Ray Lenburg WB9ILH and Dennis G. Eksten, SM8-3923 alias W9DDL. Just think if we Swedish amateurs could have our call sign on our automobiles as do our colleagues in Illinois!

One of the big Sweden enthusiasts in the USA is Dennis, W9DDL. Over 300 Swedish amateurs have had radio contact with Dennis over the years, but I was rather surprised that I was the first Swede to find his way to his home in Rockford.

The grandparents of Dennis emigrated to America during the 19th century and his only direct contact with Sweden was a few weeks vacation in Stockholm in 1964. Amateur Radio has again knitted his ties with the old country and now speaks nearly perfect Swedish. Ray, like most of the Swedish-American descendants in Rockford speak their fore-fathers language.

QTC comes by air-mail to the Swedish descendants in the middle-west and is kept for reference like QST and other radio amateur publications.

Dennis uses the Heath line with a linear amplifier and a three element Yagi antenna. He usually can be found on 21.320 MHz. There he listens often for SM signals.

To all old friends in Sweden, Dennis and Ray send their greetings through,

SM7AYB, Goran

CLUB EQUIPMENT

We have available for members use a Heath HW-16 cw transceiver and VFO. This equipment was donated by Camcar and assembled by Bill Ridgeway, WB9KOS. It is available for loan up to 60 days. There is a \$10.00 refundable deposit providing it is returned in the same condition as loaned, minus normal wear. Borrower has to furnish proper antenna, grounding system and key which are to be set up before unit is delivered. Club members will go along and assist in proper set up.

PRESIDENTS LOG

I think we all enjoyed the January meeting. We had a good turnout, 38 people, including 4 new members. Our committee lists are finally getting some names on them, but can still use more help.

Jim, WB9KZQ, and I were on the landline about an hour before slow speed net January 20th, and while we were chatting he sent out a CQ on 15 meters. We were both very surprised to hear PY2FVT come back from SAO PAULO, BRAZIL!! This was Jims first South American QSO. I jumped in right after and tried but he couldn't hear me. Could be cause Jim has a vertical and I have a north south dipole!

Speaking of my equipment--it is working BEAUTIFULLY now!!! Bill, WB9KOS, had to show me how to solder...after 7 hours of resoldering I tuned it up and it works just great. Had my first WN6 QSO the other day, an XYL near Disneyland, no less. My wife wants to know what 88 means at the bottom of the QSL card HI! HI!

Found a new book at the main library downtown on RTTY. I was the second person to check it out. Hopefully I'll understand a little about it when I finish the book.

Duane, WB9LEF, is in the hospital at the time I'm writing this. Hope he's out and feeling better by the time he reads this. Duane had said he would be Ham Rag editor, but I wouldn't want him trying when he is not well. So..I asked Al Lund W9PAE. Al said he would if he had the help of a couple of younger fellows. Paul WB9HGQ and WB9JAV volunteered to help. I'm sure these fellows will do a great job putting it together. Lets all give them help by giving them plenty of articles and getting them to them early so they won't be rushed...TNX!

I would like the field day committee to have a meeting in February to discuss ideas. There is lots of enthusiasm this year and I'm sure we'll do a bang up job!

" 73" Gene
WN9MMM

CONTESTS THIS MONTH

2-10 Novice Round up--open to all Radio Amateurs in the ARRL sections. Starts 0001 GMT February 2nd and ends 2359 GMT February 10. For more information see January, 1974 QST, page 72

2-3 DX Competition (phone)

16-17 DX competition (C.W.) open to all amateurs operating fixed amateur stations all over the world. Phone starts Feb 2, 0001 GMT, ends Feb. 3, 2359 GMT. CW starts Feb. 16, 0001 GMT, ends Feb 17, 2359 GMT. Contest is also held in march. For more information see December QST, Page 54.

DE WB9KZQ



Dear Abby

Hollywood 'ghost' is a ham

(clipped from Chicago Tribune)

By Abigail Van Buren

DEAR ABBY: Would you like to hear a true, modern ghost story? One evening while sitting alone, I heard a man's voice distinctly. I could find no one inside the house or out. A while later I heard it again. It seemed to come right out of the air. I checked the TV sets. None was on. I was completely bewildered and somewhat frightened.

A few nights later, a neighbor was visiting me and we both heard this man's voice. We searched the house together and discovered the voice was coming from a transistor radio that was turned off!

My "ghost" was a ham radio operator in my neighborhood, broadcasting with such a powerful signal that he kept coming out of everything but the fillings in my teeth. I suppose that's next.

My "ghost" interferes with the reception on my TV, radio, stereo—everything. Some neighbors have told me they have the same trouble. I've written to the FCC in Washington and they have done nothing about it. Can you help me?
HAUNTED IN HOLLYWOOD

DEAR HAUNTED: The next time you hear your "ghost," write down his call letters, and send it in a registered letter of complaint to your regional FCC office. [Federal Building, Los Angeles.] Ask your neighbors who have been similarly annoyed to sign it, and send a registered copy to your ham. He is using improperly shielded equipment, which is against the law, and can be remedied.

The FCC is reluctant to crack down too hard on offending ham operators because in times of emergencies and disasters, these hams provide a wonderful public service [gratis] when all other communications fail.

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"100 for '74"

We now have 34 paid up members

ARE YOU ONE?

.....

NAME TAGS TO PICK UP

Mark WN9NFE Lucy W9USR
Bill WN9MIA Doc K9PJJ
Connie K9DJG

.....

AT LAST

CONGRATULATIONS to Jim Dunlea, WB9KZQ, on finally receiving his general. A long eight weeks, plus, wait, right Jim?

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NEW MEMBERS LAST MEETING

- Jack Muntz--964-1842--2424 Clinton Rd.
- Al Nelson--WN9HHG--1931 N. Court--962-1802
- Jim McNaught--WB9MJ0--4933 Crofton Drive --877-5966
- Urban "Doc" Kyburz--K9PJJ--R#4, Box 234c--885-3239

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Change of address

Paul E. Johnson, W9BNO
2108 School St., Rockford, Ill. 61103

TEN COMMANDMENTS FOR TECHNICIANS

1. Beware the lightning that lurketh in the undischarged capacitor, lest it cause thee to bounce upon thy buttocks in a most untechnician-like manner.
2. Cause thou the switch that supplieth large quantities of juice to be opened and thusly tagged that thy days in this earthly vale of tears may be long.
3. Prove to thyself that all circuits that radiateth and upon which thou worketh are grounded and thusly tagged lest they lift thee to radio frequency potential and causeth thee to make like a radiator, too.
4. Tarry thou not amongst those fools that engage in intentional shocks for they are surely non-believers and are not long for this world.
5. Take care that thou useth the proper method when thou takest the measure of a high-voltage circuit lest thou incinerate both thyself and thy meter, for verily, though thee hast no account number and can be easily surveyed; the test meter doth have one and, as a consequence bringeth much woe unto the supply room.
6. Take care thou tampereth not with interlocks and safety devices, for this incurreth the wrath of the supervisor and bringeth the fury of the safety inspector upon thy head and shoulders.
7. Work thou not on energized equipment, for if thou so dost, will thy fellow workers surely buy beers for thy widow and console her in other ways.
8. Service thou not equipment alone, for electrical cooking is a slothful process and thou might sizzle in thy own fat for hours upon a hot circuit before thy maker sees fit to end thy misery.
9. Trifle thou not with radioactive tubes and substances lest thou commence to glow in the dark like a lightning bug and thy wife have no further use for thee except thy wages.
10. Causeth thou to be tagged all modifications made by thee upon equipment, lest thy successor tear his hair and go slowly mad in his attempt to decide what manner of creature hath made a nest in the wiring of such equipment.

Compliments of RVC
Dept. of Technology

TRADER'S CORNER

Free service to members of RARA.
Deadline for copy = two weeks before next meeting.
Mail, phone, or hand copy to HAM RAG Editor.

WANTED: 6 meter or 2 meter antennas.
Call Earl Davis, WB9KOR, 633-4225

WANTED: Inexpensive mobile antenna and mount.
Call Gene Harlan, WN9MMM, 398-2683

WANTED: New members for the club

Clearing out the shack...

1. Transmitters

Hammerlund HK 50 (160- 10M) AM-CW
Globe Scout model 40A (160- 10M) AM - CW
Globe Chief model 90 CW
Transcender model 1000 with mike (CB trans.)

2 Linear amplifier

Browning Mark 100

3. Receiver

NO 98 (BC thru 10M)

4. VFO

Heathkit (160- 10M)

5. Misc.

Phono 100w amplifier (Knight)
Station intercom

Maybe more!!! Make an offer!!!

Ray W9VTL office 398-7929 home 2264888

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FIRST CLASS