

# HAM RAG

Affiliated with ARRL

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



## FCC Proposes Overhaul ; Solicits Comments

FCC Docket 20282 proposes sweeping changes to the Amateur Radio Rules and Regulations. As outlined at the January RARA meeting, these include creation of a no-code VHF license, separation of VHF and HF licenses, non-renewable Conditional class licenses, a 5-year renewable Novice class license, new restrictions on the Technician class just to name a few. We have until June 16 at the latest to send our comments and counter-proposals to Washington.

THE TIME TO CONSIDER AND DECIDE IS NOW!!!

## WHAT WOULD YOU DO?

A RARA Committee has been carefully examining Docket 20282 and will be presenting their results at the February meeting. Ideas and suggestions for individual letters of comment to the FCC as well as interpretations of the docket's fine points will be available. We owe it to ourselves and to our hobby to ACT NOW!!

FEBRUARY MEETING DATE: Feb. 14, Friday TIME: 7:00 PM

BUILDING I ROCK VALLEY COLLEGE ROOM 222

PRESIDENT'S LOG

The officers of the Club were very pleased with the attendance at the January meeting. It was great seeing so many of you in spite of the rain.

A word of thanks to those who participated in the program. All of you did a fine job, and I appreciate the time and effort that was put into your presentation.

I have been communicating with B.T.A.R.C. about the Ham-Fest in August. It appears they are very anxious for a repeat performance of good attendance and to make it a very successful day. I am hoping that by meeting time in February, I can report to you as to who will serve on the Ham-Fest Committee.

I have been hearing some very nice comments about the "EARS" Repeater. The people involved in this project deserve a lot of praise for the wonderful team spirit that put this Repeater on the air.

Saturday, I overheard several Novices talking about the "Novice Net". It sounded as though they were enjoying themselves and getting over the fever. I would like to encourage all Novices to participate because this Net is for you. You will find the other participants very helpful, and it is a good way to build up your confidence.

73's

John Wacker

February 3, 1975

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

## 1975 BOARD OF DIRECTORS

|                    |                   |             |               |          |
|--------------------|-------------------|-------------|---------------|----------|
| John Wacker, Chmn. | 399-1695          | Earl Davis  | WB9KOR        | 633-4225 |
| Frank Baker        | WB90GD 1-623-2008 | P.D. "Mick" | McBride W9NKQ | 399-7973 |
| Dick Connors       | WB9IED 877-7722   | Jack Muntz  | WN9PCA        | 964-1842 |
| Jim Clark          | W9BAV 226-5696    | Mike Oberg  | WB9JAU        | 399-5295 |

# PSSST!!



RARA NEEDS A LITTLE OF YOUR TIME!

This is pretty important. Every year or two, we ask that you fill out a page of CONFIDENTIAL DATA about yourself. It does three things: it lets your officers become acquainted with you; it uncovers a wealth of unsuspected talent; and it helps to get the answers that we need for an annual report to ARRL Headquarters so as to maintain our no-cost affiliation with the League.

You will find a copy of your Data Sheet elsewhere in this issue of the HAM RAG. Please fill it out completely, and either mail it to our President, John Wacker, 1412 Comanche Drive, Rockford 61107 or bring it to the February RARA meeting. We need this for every member of RARA.

Tnx vy, OM.



IS THIS YOUR LAST COPY OF THE HAM RAG?

As has been announced several times, RARA dues for 1975 must be paid by the upcoming February meeting, in order to keep your membership and subscription to HAM RAG in effect. If you miss this anyway, there will be no more reminders, but you will be reinstated upon payment of your 1975 dues. But if you are having a special problem, please contact Treasurer Jack Muntz, WN9PCA, at 964-1842.

NOVICE NET MEETS MON. EVE., 8:00 P.M. AT 21.165.

In March, 1974, a group of aspiring hams met with Vito Fiore and embarked on a course leading to the Novice Ticket. Many of us would not have made it, had it not been for the excellent job done by Vito. His guidance enabled every one of us to become a ham. This was possible because our Saturday class was effective on two levels.

Vito's expertise as a teacher was indispensable to many of us who thought P=IE must be some sort of misprint. It is certainly a tribute to our teacher that everyone aspiring to Novice status attained his goal.

The other important aspect of Vito's class was the spirit of camaraderie it engendered. This is reflected in that Jack Muntz is now an officer of our club. The spirit in which Vito conducts his class has an important influence on each member in it, and hence on the composition of RARA..

In another six weeks another Novice class will begin, and it certainly deserves our attention and support. Only seven members of last year's class ultimately joined RARA, and some of those who haven't are in danger of becoming inactive. It would behoove the members of our group to reach out to the fine people who will be enrolling in Vito's class and help them get involved in all aspects of Ham Radio.

de WN9PBZ

# How to Use It...

# **VHF Radio:**

5

## **Do we have something for you!**

Most of us are well aware by now that Rockford's new 2-Meter FM Repeater, WR9AES, is now on the air on 146.01/146.61. At the January RARA meeting, members voted to support the operation and construction of the repeater through a generous cash donation to the Experimental Amateur Radio Society, builders and promoters of WR9AES. EARS wishes to extend sincere appreciation to RARA for this donation and pledges to make every effort to maintain a top-quality repeater for the Rockford area. In addition to the DOs and DON'Ts published in the November HAM RAG, here are some tips for use of the automatic phone patch built into the EARS repeater:

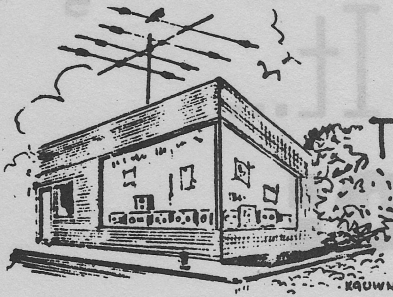
To use the patch, please use the following procedure:

1. After determining that the repeater is not in use, identify yourself and your intention to use the patch. Example: "This is W9XYZ, phone patch."
2. Push #, then \* on your tone pad and listen for the dial tone coming back.
3. Complete tone dialing as you would on a regular telephone and listen for the ring tone.
4. When the called party answers, explain briefly that he is engaged in a two-way conversation, that he cannot be heard while you are talking. Demonstrate the sound of the squelch to him so he will understand when he can be heard, or use "over" if necessary.
5. The call will automatically terminate in about 2 minutes, so be reasonably brief.
6. When finished, push # on your tone pad to disconnect the patch from the repeater.
7. Identify yourself and your intentions for further operation. Example: "This is W9XYZ, clear phone patch, thru WR9AES, Rockford. W9XYZ listening .61 (or W9XYZ clear)."

Note also that the "1" has been defeated by circuitry at the repeater for use in the first digit, for obvious reasons. However, the "0" has been retained so that the operator may be reached if necessary. Also one final important note: FCC regulations prohibit any commercial use of Amateur Radio. This includes use of the repeater phone patch. It is unlawful to call any place of business which answers with their business name, or to call your office to report in. Even Illinois National Bank's time service is a no-no, due to it's commercial at the beginning. Informal, non-business calls only, please!

Any comments and/or suggestions for repeater operation are welcomed by EARS. Contact Jay, K9QYY, or Herb, K9AMJ, for best results.

Happy FM'ing.



# THE TRADERS CORNER

**FOR SALE: 20M. 1KW GG LINEAR AMPLIFIER. HOMEBREW (Worked 300+ DXCC)**  
 -Single 4-400A or PL175A w/spares (room for 2nd tube).  
 -can be modified for all-band operation.  
 -whisper fan cooling. Vacuum variable capacitor.  
 -husky pwr. supply. (2) 872A w/time delay on filaments.  
 -pwr. xfmr. from Collins KW-1. 110V. or 220V. primary 3200-0-3200V. @ 1 Amp.  
 -19" std. relay rack. Black finish.  
 -\$125 firm.

**HAM-M ROTATOR. Good condx. w/North centered control box.**  
 Need a second rotator? \$55.

**20M 4-element Beam w/gamma match (copy of 204BA). Needs work. (Worked 300+ DXCC) \$25.**

Contact Al, W9YRA. 5775 Alma Dr. Rockford.  
 399-0118 (home) or 965-7741 (work).

**WANTED: MANUAL FOR VIKING II. Contact Dennis Hollingsworth, 877-1210.**

**FOR SALE: DRAKE T4X XMTR, R4 RCVR, MS-4 SPKR/PWR SUPPLY.**  
 -all original cables.  
 -Shure 404C Dynamic Mic.  
 -all manuals.  
 -Mint condx. Original cartons.  
 -1 pair of new 6JB6 Finals  
 -\$550. Contact Jack, K9UWN.

## WHAT'S UP

IT IS WITH REGRET THAT WE ANNOUNCE that Frank Baker, WB9OGD, has found it necessary to resign his post as RARA secretary, due to his heavy student workload and employment schedule.

2-Meter FM Portable Operators needed for traffic direction at the March RARA meeting. This will be an open meeting, and direction for newcomers to the RVC parking facilities will be provided preceding the meeting. If you have a talkie or a portable 2-meter FM rig and would be willing to serve in this capacity, please contact John Wacker, 399-1695, prior to March 7.

CONFIDENTIAL DATA ON RARA MEMBERS

Date \_\_\_\_\_

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Present Call \_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Age 8-17 26-35 51-64  
Group 18-25 36-50 65-up Occupation \_\_\_\_\_

First Licensed \_\_\_\_\_ Present Class \_\_\_\_\_ Year of Last Upgrade \_\_\_\_\_ Other Calls Held \_\_\_\_\_

Active on Bands: \_\_\_\_\_

Gear: \_\_\_\_\_

Mobile? \_\_\_\_\_ Hand Held? \_\_\_\_\_ Emergency Power? \_\_\_\_\_ Phone Patch? \_\_\_\_\_

Member ARRL \_\_\_\_\_ RACES \_\_\_\_\_ AREC \_\_\_\_\_ EARS \_\_\_\_\_

Awards Held \_\_\_\_\_ Offices Now Held \_\_\_\_\_

Ham Interests: (Mark preferences 1, 2, 3, etc.) Other \_\_\_\_\_

CW \_\_\_\_\_ Contests \_\_\_\_\_ RTTY \_\_\_\_\_ Nets \_\_\_\_\_ Technical \_\_\_\_\_

DX \_\_\_\_\_ Rag Chew \_\_\_\_\_ SSTV \_\_\_\_\_ Construction \_\_\_\_\_

Interests, skills, hobbies outside of Ham Radio \_\_\_\_\_

Available for Club Committee Work \_\_\_\_\_ Preferences \_\_\_\_\_

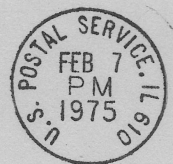
Suggestions for Meeting Topics, Activities, etc. \_\_\_\_\_

Constructive Criticism \_\_\_\_\_

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



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



FIRST CLASS