

HAM RAG

Affiliated with ARRL

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



SUMPUN HE CALLS RADDYOH!
SEZ HE'S COMMUNICATING.

WELL, WE'RE NOT SURE THAT THIS IS HOW IT WORKS, BUT DAVE PIPPITT

WILL BE AT OUR JUNE MEETING TO EXPLAIN THE DETAILS OF

BIOTELEMETRY

SEE YOU AT THE MEETING, FRIDAY, JUNE 13, 1975, at ROCK VALLEY COLLEGE

BUILDING CL 1, ROOM 222, 7:00 PM

PRESIDENT'S LOG

The time for another issue of the Ham-Rag is upon us. We are going to continue send it out during the summer months.

Those of you who could not make it to the May meeting missed a beautiful presentation by Jim W9BAV on R.T.T.Y. He presented the material so that it could be easily understood by everyone. Jim brought along some of his equipment and everyone had a chance to see it and ask questions. Thanks again to you Jim for a fine program.

We have another interesting program for you in June. Dave Pippitt of Rockford College is going to talk to us about Biotelemetry, a very interesting subject. Please come to the meeting and listen to another use for transmitting and receiving. I am told that Dave does some very interesting experimints.

By the time you receive this issue of the Ham-Rag, you should have received your letter concerning the Picnic. Please do not ignore the request to return the post cards telling us whether or not you are going to attend. This would eliminate a lot of phone calls because if you don't return your card, we will need to contact you by phone so we can plan for tables, ect..

Field Day preparations are being completed by Jerry WB9LOM. Paul Dean will go over logging procedures at the June meeting. Let's put down June 28 and 29 on our calendar and join in the fun of Field Day.

You should have in your possession 10 Ham-Fest tickets and it would make the Officers very happy if we did a good selling job this year and had a big turn-out. The committee is working hard to make it another successful year.

By the time this issue reaches you, some will already be vacationing. Others will be making plans to go somewhere. Have a nice time whatever your plans are for the summer. We do hope that you will not forget to get back into a regular schedule of attending meetings after your vacation. We, the Officers of the Club, have been very happy with the good attendance at our meetings. We thank you for the support you give the club.

The following article was supplied by Ralph, WB9HHH, as a note of interest to all RARA members. This is now House Bill # HR-7052, and it would be wise for all members to write to their Representative that passage of such legislation is desirable and will greatly relieve an interference problem of long standing.

INTERFERENCE

Dr. Theodore Cohen, W4UMF

A recent article in *Electronic Engineering Times* (March 24 1975) indicated that modifications in audio equipment design are expected by the FCC as interference due to audio rectification becomes an increasing problem to users of home-entertainment equipment.

While the Commission does not at present have jurisdiction in the area of non-RF devices, Frank Rose, Design Engineer at the FCC, stated that the Commission now wishes to extend its authority into the field of audio frequency devices. To accomplish this, broad legislation will be presented to the Congress to encompass a variety of equipment types. Technical requirements would then be made part of the Commission's rules, allowing for flexibility to cover new products.

What prompted the FCC's move towards legislation were the more than 42,000 RFI complaints it received in 1974. And as in 1973, almost 38,000 of these complaints related to problems with home-entertainment devices, up 20 per cent from the number of cases reported in 1970. Rose views the need for RFI legislation as a necessary step to protect consumers from the increasing number of difficulties observed with audio equipment operated in RF fields.

Bob Luff, Engineering Analyst in the Office of Plans and Policy, FCC, viewed the problem of RFI as due partly to the switch from metal chassis to enclosures made of plastic and wood, as well as to the switch from tubes to transistors. Regardless, Ray Spence, Chief Engineer of the FCC, believes that susceptibility reduction could be accomplished at low cost by using bypass capacitors at semi-conductor diode junctions, a feeling echoed by Arthur Feller, an Engineer at the Commission. A spokesman for the Fisher Radio Corporation, however, rejected bypass capacitors as the solution to the total audio rectifi-

cation interference problem. This spokesman stated that better susceptibility-reduction techniques would result in tremendous price hikes for the equipment involved. When reminded of the legislative package being compiled by the FCC, the Fisher spokesman replied: "They've been trying unsuccessfully to do that for the last 15 years."

The EET article indicated that the FCC and the ARRL expected complaints to continue to pour in until action is taken. As Bob Luff noted: "The time is right; the consumer is getting wiser as problems become more prevalent, and perhaps innovative techniques will be developed and applied in an economical way to alleviate the situation."

(Portions of the above are reprinted from EET by permission of its editor.)

Do you have an RFI problem? Have you reported it to the FCC? While the Commission's workload is such that reports of RFI cannot always be acknowledged, the only way the Commission will know that RFI problems exist is by your reports and letters.

It doesn't take much ... perhaps a few lines describing the home-entertainment equipment involved, the distance to the transmitting station, and so forth ... but it will demonstrate that problems exist, and that they are increasing in number. Drop a short note on each RFI problem you encounter to: Federal Communications Commission, Washington, D.C., 20554.

And again, don't expect an answer. Take satisfaction in knowing, however, that your 'vote' is being counted.

While you're at the typewriter or at your desk, why not report RFI cases to the Electronic Industries Association? We've found the EIA to be of assistance in resolving RFI cases, especially where the manufacturer involved is a member of the Association. Send a note, giving full details of the RFI problem encountered, to:

Ms. Sally Browne
Director of Consumer Affairs
Electronic Industries Association
2001 Eye Street, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20006

Is it important to report each case of RFI? Certainly! The trend toward high-density living and planned communities, together with restrictive zoning laws and covenants (many of which are to protect the consumer from RFI, and specifically, TVI) suggests that RFI problems could increase substantially within the next few years.

Unless manufacturers take steps to correct design deficiencies at the point of manufacture, you and I may find that we have plenty of time to write letters in the near future, as our equipment lies in disuse due to RFI problems. The time is right for RFI legislation, and every letter written is one more step towards this goal.

In addition to the legislation being prepared by the FCC, we have received word that Congressman Charles Vanik (Ohio) is having RFI legislation prepared for submission on the floor of the House of Representatives. While the bill being prepared by Congressman Vanik's office has not been made public to date, we understand that it is very similar to the one which appears in the RFI Packet prepared by the ARRL RFI Task Group. For a copy of this bill and the RFI Packet, send a large (9x12) manila envelope, addressed to yourself and having 40 cents postage affixed, to:

Secretary
ARRL RFI Task Group
8603 Conover Place
Alexandria, Virginia 22308

As a final note, congratulations are extended to SMIRK, a 6 Meter organization with 720 members in 46 states and 12 countries. Spurred on by its President, Ray Clark, K5ZMS, SMIRK is actively seeking RFI legislation and resolution of RFI problems by a letter-writing campaign directed towards both the manufacturers and the Congress. SMIRK's efforts are appreciated by amateurs everywhere!

20282 NEWS

ATTENTION-----ATTENTION-----ACHTUNG

FLASH!

At its meeting on May 15-16, 1975, the ARRL Board of Directors established the League position on the FCC restructuring proposal, Docket 20282. The Directors were guided by the results of a survey of the entire U.S. membership of the League which was conducted in March and April, and to which over 56,000 members responded. The Board did not endorse the concept of a dual-ladder structure dividing amateur radio into hf and vhf "tracks," but instead proposed a unified, logical progression up from a basic entry-level license, with each class of license including all privileges of those grades below it.

Here is a summary of how present amateur licensees would be affected by the FCC proposal, and by the ARRL counter-proposal:

<u>Amateur Extra</u>	<u>FCC proposal</u>	<u>ARRL proposal</u>
power:	2000 watts peak output	1000 watts dc input
frequencies:	lose exclusive phone bands on 75 and 15 m.	retain 75-meter exclusive phone band, add a new one on 20 meters from 14175-14200 kHz
tenure:	lifetime operator license	lifetime operator license
examination:	eliminate written exam	retain written exam
 <u>Advanced</u>		
power:	2000 watts peak output	1000 watts dc input
frequencies:	gain access to Extra class 75 and 15 m. phone segments	gain access to Extra class 15 m. phone segment
call signs:	no change	may obtain preferred "one-by-three" call, if desired

General

power:	500 watts peak output	1000 watts dc input
modes:	A1, A3, and F3 <u>only</u>	all present modes
frequencies:	lose 29.0-29.7 MHz, gain 50.0-50.1 MHz	lose nothing, gain 50.0-50.1 MHz
station licenses:	lose right to hold club, repeater, and control station licenses	retain right to hold all "special" station licenses
mail exam supervision:	lose right to supervise exams by mail	retain right to supervise exams by mail

Conditional

power, modes, frequencies, station licenses would be affected in the same way as Generals.

tenure:	lose right to renew license, except in case of disability	retain right to renew license
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<u>Technician</u>	<u>FCC proposal</u>	<u>ARRL proposal</u>
power:	500 watts peak output	1000 watts dc input
modes:	A1, A3, and F3 <u>only</u>	all present modes
frequencies:	gain 50.0-50.1 MHz, 144-145 MHz	gain 29.0-29.7, 50.0- 50.1, 144-145 MHz
station licenses:	lose right to hold club, repeater and control station licenses	retain right to hold all "special station" licenses
Novice privileges:	all, with separate license	all, automatically
tenure:	lose right to renew license if taken by mail, except in case of disability	retain right to renew license

<u>Novice</u>		
power:	250 watts input	75 watts input
tenure:	5 years, renewable	5 years, non-renewable, but reobtainable without mandatory lapse upon re- examination
other privileges:	none	all privileges of new Basic Amateur class

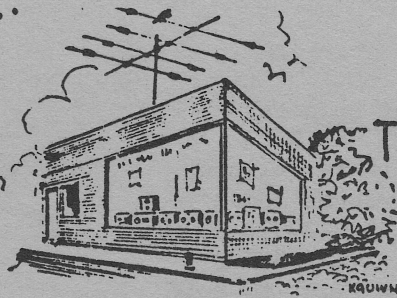
Another important FCC proposal was for the creation of a new entry-level class of license with vhf privileges. Here is a comparison of the FCC and the ARRL versions of this new license:

	<u>FCC proposal</u>	<u>ARRL counter-proposal</u>
name:	Communicator	Basic Amateur
frequencies:	all above 144 MHz	145.0-145.5 and 222-225 MHz only
power:	250 watts input	50 watts input
modes:	F3 only	A1, A2, A3, and F3
requirements:	Novice-level written exam on vhf techniques, no code exam	Novice exam designed to acquaint applicant with broad range of amateur radio, knowledge of Morse code without speed requirement
tenure:	5 years, renewable	5 years, non-renewable, but re- obtainable without mandatory lapse upon re-examination

Complete details on the ARRL Board meeting will appear in the July issue of QST, and the complete text of the ARRL filing will appear in a subsequent issue--probably August. We hope you won't want to miss these important issues.

Support for the League position on restructuring can be expressed in two ways. First of all, you can send a letter to the Amateur and Citizens Division, FCC, Washington, DC 20554, endorsing the ARRL position on amateur restructuring (Docket 20282). Even better, you can join the ARRL, and encourage your friends to join. A further increase in ARRL membership, already at its highest level in history, will be a message to the FCC that amateurs are united in their support of a structure that would permit present licensees to retain their privileges. Your support will be extremely important as we continue the tasks of strengthening the amateur radio service and preparing for the world frequency conference on the horizon. The League's position on restructuring of our service has been reached with those goals in mind.

The American Radio Relay League, Inc. * 225 Main Street * Newington, CT 06111



THE TRADERS CORNER

FOR SALE: 20 Meter 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 tuning capacitor.
 -husky power supply: 2-872As with time delay on fil. Pwr xfmr from
 Collins KW1. 110 or 220V primary, 3200-0-3200V. @ 1 Amp secondary.
 -19" std. rack mounting, black finish
 -\$125.00 firm.

20M 4 element beam w/gamma match (copy of 204BA). Needs work. \$25.00.

FOR SALE: Texas Instruments SR-11 Electronic Calculator, with case, book,
 and charger. \$45.00

Pickett type N4-ES Vector Log/Log Dual base Slide Rule. With books
 and case. \$29.00 new. Make offer.

DRAKE TR-22C w/all accessories, 12 sets of crystals, external
 homebrew Ni-cad charger, Touch-tone pad, all cables. Also includes
 HEATH HA-201 10W. Amplifier, with book, and (2) 5/8 wavelength
 gain antennas for mobile use. Complete package \$285.
 Randy, WB9GEB,

WANTED: BC Band "Conelrad" Monitor receiver; 40M Novice crystals (7.100-7.150KHz)
 Bob Mackey, WN9QPP. 226-8074.

FOR SALE: REGENCY HR-2B, HR-212, AR-2 amplifiers. Hy-Gain & Hustler antennas.(2M)
 Crystals in stock for .01/.61 for Regency & other popular rigs.
 Contact Jim Nilson, WB9ETH, at Traveler Motor Coach, 202 N. Second St.
 965-8811, Dealer for Regency and the new Satan Brimstone synthesized
 2M FM transceiver.

FOR SALE: HALLICRAFTERS SX-101A Receiver. Ham Bands only. With matching spkr.
 Bob, W9IGB. 1-874-4578. \$140.00.

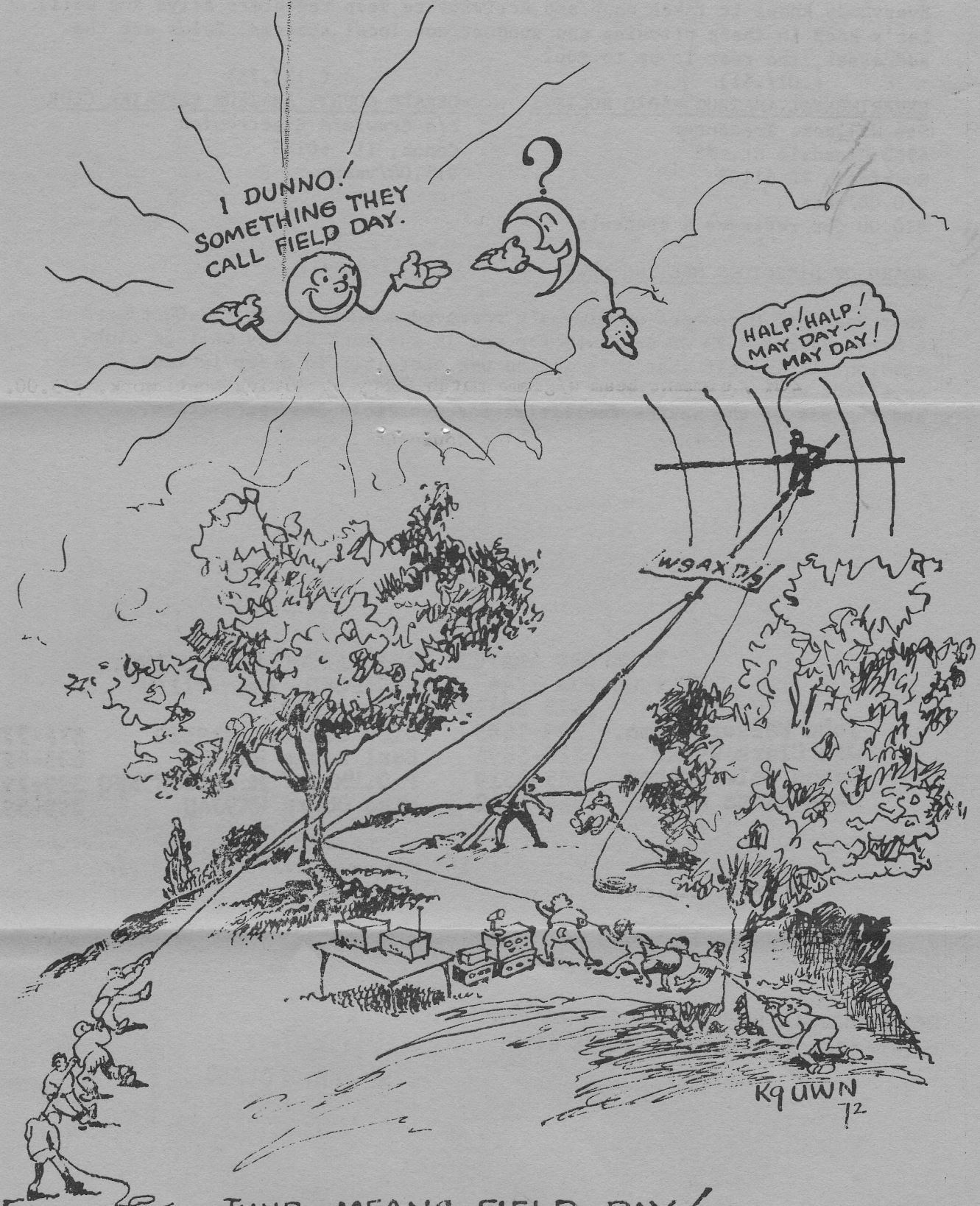
The TRADER'S CORNER is a service to all RARA members, provided at no charge.
 To place an ad, call Mick, W9NKQ, 399-7973 or Stu, K9VJE, 399-4571.

STOLEN FROM W9HVF

HR-212, Regency 2M FM Tranciever. Serial no. 24-01225. Crystals installed
 are .13/.73., .52/.52, .94/.94 and Navy MARS. Contact Bob Loy, 1310 5th Ave,
 Rockford, or the Rockford Police Department.

SILENT KEY

It is with deep regret that we report the passing of Al Lund, W9PAE, a long
 time RARA Member. He had been ill for some time, and died Sunday, June 1,
 in St. Anthony Hospital. For many years an active ham, Al was employed
 as an engineer for Illinois Bell. Our sincere condolences to his wife,
 Bernice and their family.



**JUNE MEANS FIELD DAY!
MAKE YOUR PLANS TO PARTICIPATE.**

FIELD DAY IS FAST APPROACHING!!! KEEP JUNE 28-29 FREE FOR RARA'S FIELD DAY EFFORT AT ROCK VALLEY COLLEGE.

CONTACT JERRY, WB9LOM, FIELD DAY CHAIRMAN, FOR DETAILS ON SCHEDULES, ETC. 633-2345 (home) or 633-1444 ext. 233 (work)

SUPPORT YOUR LOCAL REPEATERS

Everybody knows it takes cash and activity to keep repeaters alive and well. Let's keep in there pitching and support our local systems. Below are the addresses, the rest is up to you!

(.01/.61)

(.13/.73)

EXPERIMENTAL AMATEUR RADIO SOCIETY

Stu Willcox, Treasurer
4960 Hinsdale Ct. #5
Rockford, IL 61108
\$20.00/year
\$10.00 for retirees & students

DEKALB COUNTY AMATEUR REPEATER CLUB

c/o Crawford Electronics
Genoa, IL 60135
\$15.00/year.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING NEWS

Your Board of Directors unanimously approved a donation of \$50.00 toward a 6 Meter beam and 2M CD crystals for use at the Rock Valley College club station. It is felt that this action was certainly in order in view of the excellent service provided us by the RVC staff in providing meeting space and the use of the WB9KUR facilities for our Field Day activities.

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

1975 BOARD OF DIRECTORS

John Wacker, Chmn.	399-1695	Dick Connors WB9IED	877-7722
Jim Clark W9BAV	226-5696	Earl Davis WB9KOR	633-4225
Byron Dale WN9PBZ	965-2519	P.D. "Mick" McBride W9NKQ	399-7973
Jack Mintz WN9PCA	964-1842	Mike Oberg WB9JAU	399-5925

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

FIRST CLASS



Paul Dean WB9HGZ
317 Shaw St
Rockford, Ill 61108