

HAM RAG

Affiliated with ARRL

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

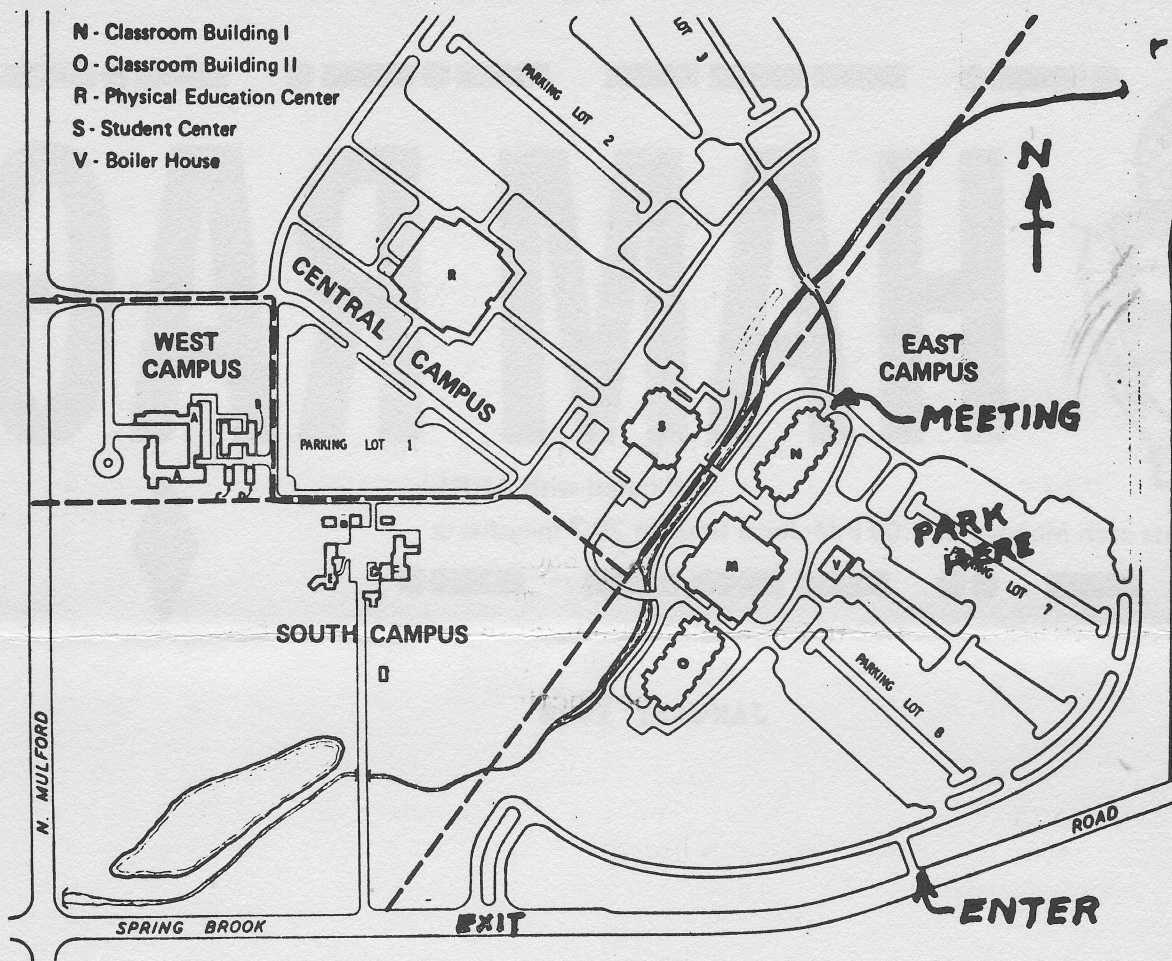


JANUARY 1976

THIS MONTHS PROGRAM WILL BE AN AUCTION
SO BRING ALL YOUR OLD JUNK AND YOUR
GOODIES AND AUCTION THEM OFF. SEE
PAGE TWO FOR FURTHER DETAILS.



FOURTY DOLLARS GOING ONCE
FOURTY DOLLARS GOING TWICE
SOLD FOR FOURTY DOLLARS



The above map shows the way to our meeting place at Rock Valley College. Our January meeting is Friday, the 16th at 7:00 P.M.

Bring your items for the auction.

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

OFFICERS - - - - 1976 - - - - DIRECTORS

Pres. John Wacker	WN9SGF	399-1695	Paul McBride	W9NKQ	399-7973
V. P. Jim Clark	W9BAV	226-5696	Mike Oberg	WB9JAU	399-5925
Sec. Byron Dale	WB9PBZ	965-2519	Clyde Aspling	WB9KOT	1-874-2330
Treas. Jack Muntz	WB9PCA	964-1842	Bill Ridgway	WB9KOS	877-2315

HAM RAG EDITOR - Art Nelson, WB9HNJ - 633-8647

Your questions, suggestions, and criticisms are invited. Phone any time.

* * * * * ABOUT THE JANUARY AUCTION * * * * *

RARA is going to try something that might be a lot of fun. If it is, and there is enough enthusiasm and participation, it could become a regular feature several times per year. It's up to you.

Members and friends of RARA are invited to bring to the **January** meeting, their excess equipment and parts, to be auctioned. This can range from good, salable apparatus, down through miscellaneous parts, and to even ridiculous junk. Each item or lot should be accompanied by a slip showing the owner's name, a description of the item for identification, and the minimum acceptable price. It is hoped that some items will be donated outright to RARA, in which please so indicate. These slips should be given to the auctioneer, not shown to the public.

Being new at this, some rules may have to be made up as the the thing progresses. Tentatively, it will work like this: The items will be sold to the highest bidder, at or above the minimum price specified. The minimum price, plus one half of the excess, will be paid to the original owner. The other half of the excess will go into a special fund, administered by the Club Treasurer, and applied to such worthy Ham Radio projects as are chosen and approved by the members later. Any unsold items will be returned to their owners, unless these owners choose to donate them for the next auction.

We know of one club in 5-land that has these affairs about four times per year, and they go over big. There is one large, useless piece of apparatus there has been sold and resold many times. Someone buys it, takes it home, removes what he wants, and resells it at the next auction. The cycle then repeats, all to the amusement and profit of the members.

RARA hopes that there will be an interesting assortment of good, useable equipment as well as attractive junk, and that there will be some donations for the benefit of the Club. So please bring your stuff (and money) to the meeting on Friday, **JANUARY 16th.**

THE E.A.R.S. CLUB ADVISES ALL REPEATER USERS THAT IT IS TIME TO PAY YOUR 1976 DUES. \$10 FOR RETIREE'S AND STUDENTS AND \$20 FOR ALL ELSE. YOU CAN'T BEAT THE PRICE FOR THE PRIVALEGE TO USE THIS FANTASTIC PIECE OF MACHINERY.

PRESIDENT'S LOG

Well, here we are entering the year 1976, and the Directors and Officers have planned a year full of activities. Elsewhere in this issue of the Ham-Rag, you will find a tentative schedule of events for the coming 12 months.

Our Christmas party was well attended this year. A good time was had by all. The high point of the evening was the presentation of the Ham-of-the-Year Award to Lee Gehlhausen. We were very pleased that Lee was present in person to receive this award.

I have had several inquiries about starting a Novice Net again. I hope that by our January meeting we will be able to announce some details concerning a Novice Net. I hope that all Novices will take part because the Novice Net is for the purpose of helping you with your sending and receiving of code. You can never practice too much code in preparation for advancement to a higher grade ticket.

By the January meeting we hope to announce who the Chairmen will be for Field Day, the Annual Picnic, and the Ham-Fest. These are all worthwhile events, and we must start our planning soon so that each of these events will be a success.

I hope that every member will try to attend our meetings in 1976. We have planned interesting programs, and we need your support. It is our hope that at each event you will pick up something that will make you proud to be a member of R.A.R.A.

We will be looking for you at the auction on Friday, January 16, 1976, at 7:00 p.m. at Rock Valley College.

73 John Wacker

NOTICE

R.A.R.A. membership fee for 1976 are now due. These can be paid to the treasurer, Jack Muntz WB9PCA, at the meeting. They can also be mailed to:

Rockford Amateur Radio Association, Inc.
P.O. Box 1744
Rockford, IL 61110

Dues for the year are \$5.00 ; for students - \$2.00.

LELAND E. GEHLHAUSEN
WA9WVY

1975 HAM OF THE YEAR

A PROFILE

Leland was born in Byron Illinois, and after attending many schools, graduated from East Senior High School in 1946. After graduating, he held some incidental jobs, none of which could have qualified him as an electronics technician in the United States Navy.

He joined the Navy in 1948, spending one year at the Electronics School in at Great Lakes before shipping out aboard a heavy cruiser attached to the Sixth Fleet. His services aboard ship included among other duties, the maintenance of the ships officers personal radios and TV's. Leland does not admit to any extra portions of grog for this work.

After his discharge from the Navy in 1952 with the rank of Petty Officer Second Class, he was employed by IBM in their Time Equipment Division and later serviced their typewriters and some electronic gear.

Leland got married in 1954 and his attractive wife Frances bore him four children, Guy, Kimberly, Andrea and Jay.

In 1968 Leland acquired his ham license and by this time his affliction with multiple sclerosis became apparent which leaves him physically handicapped. This condition one would never suspect when talking to him on the air. His cheerfull QSO's have sent many of us on our way and welcomed us back with his bouyant chatter. His technical knowledge is enviabile and many of us have leaned on him for help and advice.

The Rockford Amateur Radio Association could not have made a more appropriate choice for the HAM of the YEAR 1975 Award, than Leland. We are most fortunate to have him among us.

WB9ILH

TENTATIVE MEETINGS FOR THE YEAR 1976

At the last meeting of the Directors and Officers, the following schedule was set up for the year 1976. It is a tentative schedule, but we hope to stick to it. We have tried to schedule events that would be of interest to everyone. We would like to call special attention to the months of June, for Field Day, and August, for the Hamfest. Both of these events will take a lot of help from the membership.

For Field Day, we are going to hold it outside this year. More details in the near future. The Bel-Rock Hamfest is R.A.R.A. responsibility this year. This means we will need help from the members to have a successful event. We will be announcing the chairman for this year's Hamfest very soon.

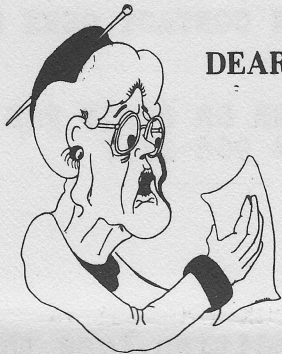
Here are the events for the year:

January- Auction
February - Get Acquainted Night
March - Old Timer's Night
April - Show & Tell
May - Field Day Exercise
June - Tour of Micro Wave Unit
July - Annual Picnic
August - Bel-Rock Hamfest
September - Demonstration by Heathkit
October - Election and Movie
November - Novice Night
December - Annual Christmas Party

We hope you will attend as many of these events this year as possible. We are sure they will all be very interesting.

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TNX TO FRED LAGERHOLM W94L



DEAR GABBY

Dear Gabby:

From reading your column for years I know how often you have found answers for people who didn't know which way to turn, and I hope you can help me with a terrible personal problem. I don't mean give me one, either. Sometimes you like to smart off I've noticed. Anyway, I was ashamed to ask about this before but now it's the style to let it all hang out. We all have troubles. Besides, it's this dummy I'm married to that needs the help.

My husband, so-called, is a ham radio operator. At least that's what he says he is, and how would I know? I don't suppose you ever heard of them but I'll give you an idea of what it's like living with one.

It's only exaggerating a little bit to say our marriage has consisted of a series of brief encounters at the dinner table. Since we were married twelve years ago John has spent eleven plus talking to little boxes in the basement. Sometimes this goes on all night and then he says it was a contest. What kind of contest do you have alone in a basement? He gets his own breakfast before I get up, and after he comes back from work he doesn't come upstairs until dinnertime. His end of the conversation at the table is a thrilling hello like you give someone you aren't sure you know. In minutes he's off again, carrying his dessert and coffee. I remember trying candles and a centerpiece of roses — the response was a fit of sneezing and a prompt check of the lighting fuses. When I invited my brother and his wife to dinner John's routine didn't change except he left a fifty cent tip on the table. I guess he did notice we weren't alone and thought he must be in a restaurant.

For some reason the roof of our house is

tied with wires to a lot of trees. When I asked about this John said it was some kind of earthquake protection, but he told the neighbors it was to keep lightning from striking anywhere on the block. On a pole in the backyard he put up a TV antenna so big you wouldn't believe it, saying it would give us a better picture, and now Lawrence Welk comes in on the bias and all wiggly.

Have you heard of lightning rods on cars? Ours has two of them — a little one on the roof and a big one on the rear bumper. More of those little boxes under the dash and cables everywhere. I've snagged my hose and caught my heels so many times I sit in back now. While he's driving John constantly punches buttons and talks into a funny telephone. He never uses the telephone at home and I've never heard of a car being hit by lightning. What's going on?

I asked my mother for advice and that was a mistake. I remember just what she said: "Oh, sure. We had some weirdo neighbors like that. They're called Citizen Band operators. Forget it, honey. It's kid stuff they grow out of." That night I asked John if he was one and just never wanted to tell me. He only gritted his teeth and went downstairs to his wires and boxes. He even forgot to take his coffee. In a few minutes he was back gritting his teeth at me again. This time they were in his hand. Then he flounced out, slamming the door, and spent the night down there. Having another contest, I suppose. Thanks a lot, MAMA.

A week ago a friend asked if I would have her doctor talk to John and I agreed. When he arrived last night we could hear the usual racket from the basement and the doctor hurried down there before I could explain all this funny business to him. In minutes he popped back up, shouted "Ten is wide open!" and laid a nice patch of rubber getting out of our driveway. Dear Gabby, can you help me?

Exasperated.

Dear Exasperated:

What you told me indicates that your husband does indeed have a problem. Ten hasn't been wide open for a long, long time and I think you'd be smart to try a different doctor.

73, Gabby

TRADER'S CORNER

Free service to members of RARA
Deadline for copy is 2 weeks before next meeting.
Mail, phone, or hand copy to Ham Rag Editor.

WANTED JOHNSON KILOWATT MATCH BOX CONTACT GENE K9IKP.

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61107

**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