

# HAM RAG

Affiliated with ARRL

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



MARCH 12, 1976 MEETING

ROCK VALLEY COLLEGE  
Building CL 1 — Room 222

7:00 p.m.

SHOW-AND-TELL NIGHT  
(Details in President's Log)

## PRESIDENT'S LOG

With the beginning of March, we will see the start of our Novice Classes. The instructors have had several planning sessions and have laid out an interesting schedule for the students. Following are the instructors and classes:

Paul Dean, WB9HGZ	-	Theory
Carl Cacciatore, WN9PBR	-	Theory
James Dunlea, WB9KZQ	-	Regulations
Jack Stuman, K9UWN	-	Code
Bill Ridgway, WB9KOS	-	Backup Instructor

Approximately 22 people have signed up for the classes which will be held at the Red Cross Building, 727 North Church Street. The classes will begin Sunday, March 7, and will be held each Sunday from 1:30 p.m. to 4:30 p.m. for ten weeks.

Paul Dean, WB9HGZ, Ham-Fest Chairman, and I met with the Ham-Fest Committee from the B.T.A.R.C. of Belvidere on February 24, 1976. It was a good meeting, and the goals were agreed upon for this year's Ham-Fest. Some of our members will be called upon to help out. If you are called, please try to help in any way you can because R.A.R.A. is the host club this year. If we all help a little, we can make this a bigger and better Ham-Fest. Paul and the Belvidere committee hope to have some different prizes this year.

I was very pleased with the turnout at our last meeting. We all had a chance to learn a little about one another, and it was very interesting. A great big "thank you" to Vito, K9UCM, Jim Dunlea, WB9KZQ, and Bob Marshall for the demonstrations they set up for us to look at during the coffee and donut session. It took their valuable time, but it was well received because I have heard from people who were present that they really enjoyed it. Thanks again to you gentlemen for making this possible for the members and visitors.

Our March meeting will be "Show and Tell" instead of the "Old Timers' Night". We will have the "Old Timers' Night" in April because some of our old timers are away at the present time. If you have built something, bring it to the "Show and Tell" meeting. If you are going to participate in "Show and Tell", please call James Clark, W9BAV, at 226-5696, or John Wacker, WN9SGF, at 399-1695 by March 10 so you can be scheduled on the program. Let's make it another interesting meeting.

The response to our request for articles for the Ham-Rag has resulted in several articles turned in for this issue. Thanks to those who contributed. Please continue to send in articles because we need them to keep the Ham-Rag interesting. Mail your articles to Art Nelson, WB9HNJ, at 7650 Park Street, Rockford, Illinois 61103.

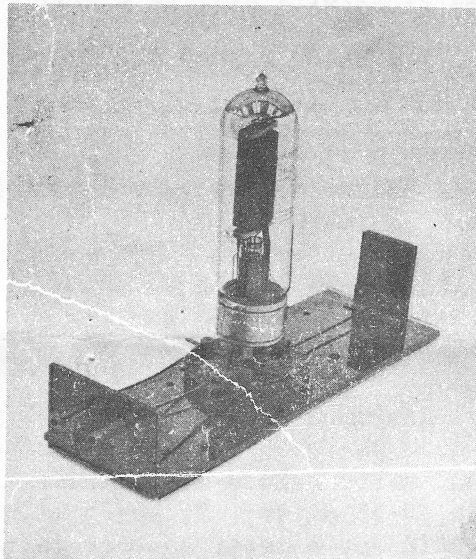
Let's have a good turnout at the March meeting. See you there.

73 John Wacker, WN9SGF

March 1, 1976

Here is something that may be of interest to  
the NT's OT's and OOT's  
(New-Timers Old-Timers Old-Old-Timers)

What in the heck is it?



A few worthwhile?? suggestions!!

The original Heath Kit  
Lecher wires for measuring UHF  
Micro-wave Marconi macaroni cooker  
Instant spaghetti stretcher  
QRMary maker  
Oscillator from old KDKA's MOPA  
Indoor UHF T-V antenna  
Arc Xmitter from Noah's ark  
A QSB eliminator  
Super flourescent Nixie-Tube  
Electronic fish finder  
E.A.Beane's Omnigraph at 9RI Chicago  
Something from Hertz? Aw nertz

If there is enough interest the correct description  
may be disclosed.

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.

SOCIETY FOR THE PRESERVATION AND ENCOURAGEMENT OF SIX METERS AND  
GLOBAL RESEARCH 1st. ANNUAL 6 METER GROUND WAVE\*

CONTEST

Saturday evening; April 3, 1976, 9 p.m. to 1 a.m. Sunday morning (0300-0700)

SIX METER BAND\*\* ALL MODES

RULES:

1. SCORING

- a) Zones Zone is determined by your location with reference to the station you work.

ZONE 1 Stations within 25 miles of your QTH.  
Zone 2 Stations 25 to 50 miles away from your QTH.  
Zone 3 " 50 to 75 " " " " "  
Zone 4 " over 75 " " " " "

- b) POINTS Zone 1 score, 1 point. Zone 2, 2 points. Zone 3, 3 points. Zone 4, 4 points. Draw a circle, on a map, centered on your QTH and award points as follows: 1, within 25 miles; 2, within 25-50 miles; 3, 50-75 miles; 4, over 75 miles.

- c) ELIGIBLE CONTACTS Any 6 meter contact is valid: however, skip stations do count in the event the band is open, but only 1/2 point each no matter where the station is . . .

2. LOGS

- a) Show your NAME, CALL, ADDRESS, ARRL section, AND INPUT POWER, MOBILES and PORTABLES must show actual locations.  
b) For each station worked show call, zone, (or distance in miles from your QTH, time and points scored.)  
c) Show your total score. Incomplete logs are ineligible.  
d) Sign and submit logs to: Phil Caruso K9DTB c/o GLOBAL RESEARCH, contest chairman, P.O. BOX 271, Lombard, Ill., 60148.  
e) Logs must be postmarked by May 3, 1976 for scoring on May 31, 1976.

3. PRIZES (Prizes from Global Research)

- a) All who submit logs will receive a certificate from SPESM.  
b) First place total score in each category (listed below) receives a prize.

4. PRIZE - CATEGORIES

- I- MOBILE, any mode or power.  
II- PORTABLE, any mode or power.  
III- HIGH POWER, 100 watts or more.  
IV- MEDIUM POWER, 50 watts to 99 watts.  
V- LOW POWER, 50 watts or less.

Any questions concerning rules can be answered by ; K9DTB-PHIL, 312/279-4658 or SPESM P.O. Box 768, S. Elgin, Ill., 60177.

Members and nonmembers are welcome to check into the "SOCIETY FOR THE PRESERVATION OF 6 METERS" net on Sunday mornings (50.125 MHz., 9a.m. C.S.T.). It is the hope that all will join in an evening of contest fun . . . . . Saturday, April 3, 1976 9 p.m. till 1 a.m. GOOD LUCK.

Remind your Ham Friends of the contest.

Best '73 to all K9DTB-Phil and Global Research radio club contest committee and SPESM contest committee.

\*TROP ALSO  
\*\* SSB, CW, FM  
AM, SSTV, RTTY, FAX

## THIS MONTH'S BIOGRAPHY

This month we would like to introduce you to one of R.A.R.A.'s members. He is Jonas Johnson, WB9SRZ, who with his wife lives at 1404 29th Street, Rockford, Illinois. His family also includes two sons.

Among his many accomplishments, Jonas has the distinction of being the first sightless amateur Radio Operator in the history of Rockford's Amateur Radio Organizations.

Jonas's interest in radio dates back to the time when he worked as a contractor in the building industry, especially in the installation and repair of electronically controlled garage door opening and closing devices. Even after losing his sight, Jonas was still able to test or give concise instructions so that others could test and repair their own equipment.

Approximately 2 years ago, his real interest in electronics became apparent when the Winnebago Blind Center offered a course in Amateur Radio. This course was sponsored by the Hadley School for the Blind and taught by Claude Middleton, W9VZ.

Jonas found time within his busy week to study theory and practice the code. As Jonas says, "if you want something strong enough, you will find a way to get it." As an example, Jonas found that he had a problem in that he was continually running off the edge of the paper while copying code. To remedy this problem, Jonas devised a clipboard and T square combination. As a line was completed, he would move the T square down to make a new line. When he took his examination for "General", Jonas was complimented by the examiner on the legibility of his copy.

It has been often stated that if you want to have a good job done, get a busy man to do it. Jonas is no exception to this as he is very active as a Shriner and a Lion and served on many committees with the Blind Center. At present, he is active on 2 meters, but when the weather moderates, there will be a tower, a tri-band, and expanded activity to the lower frequencies.

OFFICIAL BULLETIN NR 572 FROM ARRL HEADQUARTERS  
NEWINGTON CT JANUARY 12, 1976 TO ALL RADIO AMATEURS BT

A major auroral disturbance beginning around 1500 UT, January 10, brought extraordinary propagation conditions on all amateur frequencies in the hf and vhf portion of the spectrum. Intensity and geographical distribution of the effects may have exceeded those of any similar event in at least 18 months. Coming near the solar activity minimum, it is of more than ordinary interest. Participants are asked to report significant details to ARRL as soon as possible. Please give earliest time at which unusual propagation effects were noted, and details of any contacts or reception. Reports are needed for all amateur frequencies, and should be sent to WIHDLG, ARRL Headquarters. AR

The following is a re-print of an article that appeared in the February Issue of Yellow Thunder Smoke Signals.

FROM HR REPORT:

Long awaited RACES Docket has finally received FCC approval and does in effect give the Radio Amateur Civil Emergency Service to Radio Amateurs.

In their Report and Order on Docket 19723 the Commissioners discontinued the requirement for RACES communications plans, FCC certifications and authorizations. It also permits RACES station licenses to be issued directly to civil defense organizations, and provides for the shared use of ALL the amateur frequencies by RACES on a first-come, first-served basis except during emergencies requiring invocation of the President's War Emergency Powers.

Control Operators of RACES stations will have to be licensed Amateurs, and operating privileges for RACES operators will be identical to those of the Amateur Service.

Use of RACES stations will be limited to bona fide emergencies plus up to one hour per week of drills and tests. Tactical or "secret" callsigns will be abolished, and all new or renewed RACES station licenses will be assigned a WC prefix -- RACES repeaters will have WC-R-- calls. All other stations participating in RACES activities will use their existing Amateur calls.

Existing RACES stations may continue to operate under existing authorizations and the old rules until their present station licenses expire. Any presently licensed RACES station whose license expires less than 18 months after the March 23, 1976 effective date of the Report and Order is also permitted to renew the present license for one additional year.

The RACES ball is now going to land squarely back in the lap of the Amateur Service -- it will be most interesting to see how many Amateurs actively participate in RACES as the non-amateurs are phased out.

Excellent Amateur Radio PR has resulted from Amateur Operators' extensive ongoing contribution in Guatemala. For example, WB2JSM at the Hall of Science Radio Club in Flushing, N.Y. got coverage in both the New York Daily News and New York Times plus CBS-TV nationwide exposure for what ended up as a 'round the clock message handling operation.

Their volunteer phone answering crew took so much traffic that much of it had to be flown in batches to the Red Cross in Guatemala City! The Red Cross itself put out an extremely laudatory press release on the Amateur's role in the disaster, and those Amateurs who called their local papers and broadcast stations found very receptive ears -- W9JUV's call to WBBM reporting Friday noon's minor earthquake resulted in a live interview that was taped and rebroadcast throughout the day.

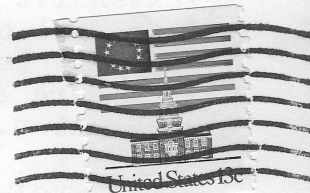
**TRADER'S CORNER**

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

**FOR SALE: 1976 CALLBOOKS. U.S. AND FOREIGN AT DISCOUNT PRICES!**  
Larry Kleber, K9LKA/W9CPD, 529 S. State, Belvidere.  
18-544-2075.

**FOR SALE: BRAND NEW STANDARD 146A, RUBBER DUCKIE, LEATHER CASE,  
NICADS AND CUSTOM CHARGER. 94-94 and 94-34. Regularly  
\$389.00. Save \$140.00. Yours for \$249.00. Larry Kleber,  
K9LKA/W9CPD, 529 S. State, Belvidere. 18-544-2075.**

**ROCKFORD AMATEUR RADIO ASSOCIATION INC.,  
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**FIRST CLASS**