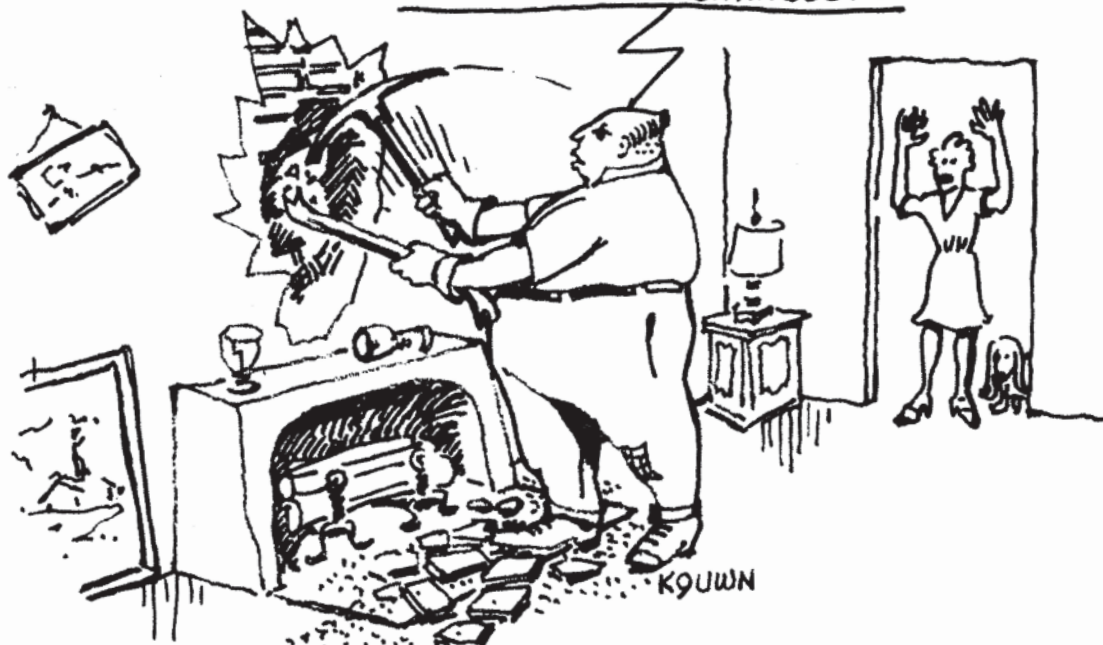


# Ham Rag

Rockford Amateur Radio Association

November, 1981

I'M ENLARGING TH' FLUE SO'S  
OLE KRIS KIN GIT MY NEW  
RIG DOWN TH' CHIMBLEY!



" PREPARATIONS FOR THE HOLIDAYS "

# President's Log

I would like to thank Cliff Andersen-W9TWM for a well put together program in September. I really wish they could have been there as the information I received said you could hear the laughter down on the first floor. For October, I would like to thank Sherri-WB9SFT for setting up our program with Ed Metzger-W9PRN. Ed, the A.R.R.L. Central Division Director, talked about things happening in the A.R.R.L. and then answered any questions we had. Thanks Ed.

I would like to apologize for not writing my log in October, but I just did not feel up to it while I was in the hospital. I thank all who were concerned and am glad to report that I am now feeling fine.

I would like to congratulate our new 1982 officers, and wish them the best of luck for the year. For those of you who could not make the meeting, they are: *President, Frank Hirsch-KB9KH; Vice President, Jim Ambruso-WD9FVF; Secretary, Maurice Bolte-N9CCE; & Treasurer, Dale Mather-KC9BN.* All the present officers will become directors. I offer my help in any way possible to the new officers as I hope the rest of the club will.

One thing that the board has is the shipment of QSL's from the club to the ARRL. Just bring all your cards to a club meeting in alphabetical order along with your mailing label off of your QST. I think there were 150 to 200 cards turned in at our last meeting. This is one of the nice benefits of club membership.

**The Board of EARS is sponsoring a contest for the best designed club logo. This logo should be appropriate for placement on shirts, caps, jackets, etc. The winning design will receive \$10.00. You must be an EARS member and entry deadline is November 15th. Prize awarded at the January meeting. Board members are not eligible.**

I have a few nomination ballots in for *HAM OF THE YEAR* but can use more. These ballots were in your last Ham Rag. Please fill yours out and sent it in or get it to one of the board members before November 15. This is the time the selection will be made and your input is needed.

I will try to have a roster of club members with name, call, address and phone number for the new members at the Christmas Party. I hope to also have the change in our constitutional by-laws. In 1982, our club dues will be as follows: *individual members - \$10.00 while family members after the first member along with students, associates and retired members - \$5.00.*

As you might already know our program this month is Father Moran-9N1MM of Nepal. If you want a seat I suggest you get there a little early; because I think there will be a large turnout. I've heard 9N1MM telling other hams around the area of his coming to our club meeting. I wrote an article about Father Moran in this issue. Maps which show the correct parking lot and building were in the last Ham Rag and hopefully this one. Talk-in will be on .01/.61. The meeting is at 7 pm on November 27th (*the day after Thanksgiving*). See you there!

*Bruce* -73, Bruce, KB9OW

**LATE FLASH!!!** *The Christmas Party has been moved to the Captain's Cabin at 2620 11th Street on Saturday, December 19 at 7:00. This is both a new location and day so please pass along the news to your friends.*

# Editor's QRM

Before I get into the usual pile of trivia, let me set the record straight with some corrections. First, "UP CLOSE & PERSONAL" is written by Jim-WD9FVF. You will notice however that the bottom of his column has had other things appearing there. Then, looking at the *HAM RAG's* credit line, we find that the Distribution Manager does not spell her name the same way we do.

"So what? Who cares?" you ask.

Well I do for one. They work hard and deserve the proper credit for their efforts. I have asked Jim and Carol for forgiveness and have been promised the return of my children if the mistake does not occur for a third consecutive month.

I was on their side; but now, in a quietness sent from heaven, I am not sure,

Oh well, back at the trivia pile, the **RARA WAS COMPETITION** is just finishing. Those responsible for that outbreak of TVI report the turn out is better than expected. They ask that anyone who worked the infestation at all to

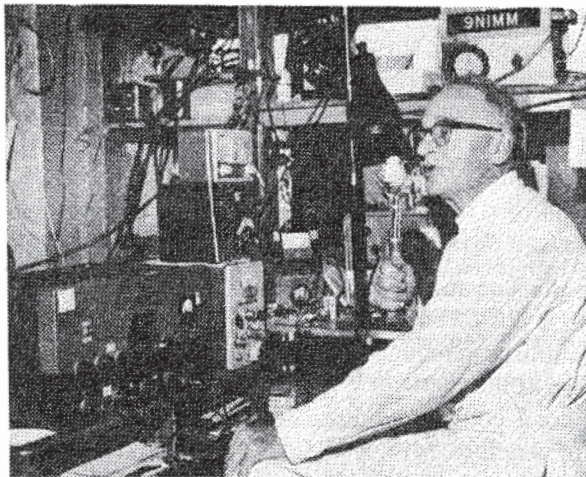
please turn in the results of your efforts. You do not need all 50 states.

Those QRM crazed people have also confirmed they plan to create another mass of confusion in late winter. This time they are planning to venture forth into that uncharted wilderness known as the FCC's block call sign system. Details will appear in January unless these people are stopped.

I am pleased to hear another net is forming. This one is to be an aid of junk boxes everywhere. Heard on Monday evenings after the regular 2 meter net is a swapfest-flea market-junk collection.

Now let's face it. The last thing any of us needs and the one thing we must enjoy is playing pack-rat with junk radio parts. So grab your blown tubes and burned out resistors and get yourself on the net.

*Jim* -73, Jim, K19F





# CQ Contest

Nov.... 7-8	*ARRL SWEEPSTAKES CW A&B INDEPENDENCE PARTY FALL SMIRK IPA CONTEST
Nov..... 8	DARC CORONA-1 Meter RTTY OK DX CONTEST
Nov..... 11	WIAW QUALIFYING RUN
Nov.. 14-15	EUROPEAN DX CONTEST RTTY DELAWARE QSO PARTY NORTH CAROLINA QSO PARTY CQ-WE CONTEST
Nov..... 21	WIAW QUALIFYING RUN
Nov.. 21-22	*ARRL SWEEPSTAKES SSB VK CW QRP
Nov.. 28-29	*CQ WW DX CONTEST CW
Dec..... 1	WEST COAST QUALIFYING RUN
Dec.... 5-6	*ARRL 160-METER CONTEST CONNECTICUT QSO PARTY EA-DX CONTEST TELEPHONE PIONEERS
Dec..... 10	WIAW QUALIFYING RUN
Dec.. 12-13	*ARRL 10-METER CONTEST

\*Sheets available at club meetings.

Well here I sit in the honorable editor's shack with my hands shackled to the table and threats of violence ringing in my ears. Every time I get an idea of how to begin this month's column, the sting of the whip on my backside drives any creative genius into the next county. The reason for this assault on my constitutional rights is that my column is way overdue. (11 days).

Now that the words are starting to flow a bit quicker, let's talk about **FIELD DAY 1981**. From the results that appeared in the November issue of *QST*, RARA finished with 4990 points in the 6A category which was good enough for the 16th place out of 40. Everyone who was involved in that little fray gets a pat on the back for a job well done.

The third weekend of this month, November

21-22, is the next running of a real biggie of a contest - the **ARRL's SWEEPSTAKES - SSB**. If you are going to work only one contest each year, this is the one not to miss. The contest begins on Saturday the 21st at 3pm and ends 30 hours later at 9pm Sunday the 22nd. The object is to work as many U.S. and Canadian stations from 160 to 10 meters as you can. Complete rules are on page 8/z0 of the October *QST*. Don't forget about the club competition either. Your score can also be credited to RARA. Just notify the editor or myself so your name can be put on the list that has to be submitted to the ARRL. Next time you talk to your buddy on the repeater, tell him that you are going to beat him in the **SS CONTEST**.

For those of us who are able to find room for a lot of antenna, the annual **ARRL 160 METER CONTEST** will take place the weekend of December 4-6. This year will be the first where we can use full legal power from 1800 to 1900KHz. There are still power and geographic restrictions in the top half of the band.

Due to the troubles the club has been having with the Christmas Party, the **10 METER CONTEST** will not fall on the same weekend as our bash. The ARRL frolic is the second weekend of December (*the 12th & 13th*). Complete rules for both the **10 & 160 METER CONTESTS** are in the November *QST* on page 100.

**DO NOT FORGET** to send in your results from the **RARA WAS COMPETITION**. All 50 states do not necessarily have to be worked to finish on top in your class. If you have more than anyone else - you've done it. So send in your list by November 15 to either the P.O. Box or to KI9F or AK9N.

So much for this month. Jim should let me go home now. I can't scribble much more anyway, since the shackles on my wrists are too tight and my fingers are turning blue.

73, Gene, AK9N

# CQ DX

Hi gang! The fall season is here. I hope everyone got their antennas up and working. There is lots of DX on the bands so jump into a pile-up and have some fun. We have had both good and bad days but the disturbances should settle down soon.

CEØX San Felix was on. What a pile-up he had. Unfortunately there were several rude amateurs on top of him talking and swearing. It was very discouraging to hear. Also, the hams who were being the policemen were taking their toll too with needless chatter. So the motto is **NEVER talk on the DX'ers frequency.**

FB8WG Corzet (*very rare*) has been appearing on 21.28Mc on Saturday mornings with a list type operation.

9Q5FL Republic of Zaire was worked on 28.636 by WD9FVF. Who said 1Ø is closed?

9N1MM Father Moran will be here soon. Father Moran is the main operator in Nepal. He has been very active over the years and is known over the whole world. Plan to see and hear his talk, it will be very interesting.

W9SS-Dennis needs one more current country and he will be on the *ARRL DXCC HONOR ROLL*. The Honor Roll is a very difficult list to get on.

1AØ Royal Order of Malta is now an official country for DXCC status. Point your beam toward Italy. **DO NOT** submit cards until after January 1st. QSL 1AØKM via IØMGM.

75 and 4Ø meters should start getting better and the static levels will be reduced as winter gets closer. So listen carefully! There is lots of DX to be worked on these bands,

We still need input for this column. So tell us what you have worked or heard. It may be Central America or China. Your friends and the

readers of this column may need it for a new one. We talk a lot about the rare exotic ones, but remember the common ones are just as important.

7Q7LW has been active on 21Mc. K9LUX worked him for a new one. Larry also heard a 3B9 Rodriguez Island at 14.2Ø5 recently.

## ELEVEN MOST NEEDED

BY .....	China
VS9K.....	Kamaran Island
3Y .....	Bouvet
XZ .....	Burma
ZA .....	Albania
VU7 .....	Laccadive Island
VKØ .....	Heard Island
7Ø .....	Peoples Republic of Yemen
KU .....	Khmer Republic
FB8W .....	Crozet

Current ARRL Country Count is 319. Remember that deleted countries also count for DXCC.

VK9XW Christmas Island has been on many of the DX nets on a regular basis. Also heard on the YL ISSB Net on 14.331 at Ø945GMT. QSL via VK6RU.

Four members of the club station A4XCA are on the air. Look for them on Thursdays and Fridays on 14.275 at 11ØØGMT, 28.56Ø at 13ØØGMT & 21.273 at 2ØØØGMT. All plus os minus QRM . QSL via G4GIR.

-73, K9IKP

*On October 25th, EARS held its annual election of officers with the following results:*

President .....	Sharon-WB9SFT
Vice President.....	Dean-WD9FLO
Treasurer .....	Paul-K9RNR
Secretary .....	Paul-K9VJJ
Technical Committee .....	Herb-K9AMJ
.....	Floyd-K9CUQ
Directors.....	Jack-AA9Q
.....	Moe-N9CCE
.....	Gene-WB9MMM



# 9N1MM

Marshall D. Moran-9N1MM was born in Chicago, Illinois on May 29, 1906. Mr. Moran went to public school in Chicago Heights, St. Ignatius High and later to Loyola University where he obtained a doctorate in philosophy. Mr. Moran then went into the Jesuit order as a student. He was asked if he would like to work in the missionary field. In 1929 Brother Moran left Chicago and was sent to St. Mary's College in Kurseong, India where he was ordained as a priest on November 22, 1935. It was a most joyful remembrance for Father Moran and his family.

Father Moran's skills are not surprising in view of his background, interests and education.

Father Moran spent 21 years in India, mostly in educational work at Patna, a big center for Middle Western Jesuits in Bihar Province. There he met and became the friend of the man who was to become the prime minister of India, Jawaharlal Nehru.

Father Moran knew many Nepalese at Patna and visited the country in 1949. In 1950, When Nepal's ruling family of hereditary prime ministers, the Ramas, decided they wanted a good school near Katmandu, it was Father Moran they asked to do the job.

He jumped at the chance to become the country's first christian ministry since 1768, although he was forbidden to make converts.

Father Moran who speaks Nep ali, Urdu and Hindu has seen many changes in Nepal. The greatest, he says, is in the attitude of the people, in the widening of their mental horizons. He puts it this way:

*Thirty years ago, most Nepalese didn't know or care where Calcutta was; today they're conscious of the world. They know a little and they intend to know a lot more."*

Father Moran who founded St. Xavier's School in Nepal, where it is almost impossible to make overseas telephone calls, makes several emergency radio contacts a year all over the world. Nepalese and foreigners - anyone with an urgent problem or distant relatives he is anxious about - can count on the energetic priest to beam in for them almost anywhere on earth.

Father Moran has many friends in the

mountain - climbing fraternity and Tensing Norkey, the Sherpa tribesman who with Sir Edmund Hillary was first to scale Mount Everest, is "a great pal" of his. When the American expedition conquered Everest in 1963 it was 9N1MM who relayed radio bulletins from the climbers to newspaper correspondents in Katmandu, an account of which appears in James Ullman's book, *American on Everest*.

Father Moran figures in more than one book about Nepal, and for other reasons besides his radio exploits. He is lauded in Chester Bowles' *Ambassador's Report*, in the adventure-packed *Tiger for Breakfast* and *The Fabulous Flemings*; he is even a character in the novel *The Mountain is Young*.

Father Moran is a daredevil who retains a boyish love of danger. He often speeds from school to his many appointments on his motorcycle, a beret perched on his head, the skirts of his cassock flying out behind him.

Father Moran started his school with 10 Nepalese boys who came with him from his school in Patna. Today it's student body is more than seven times larger. St. Xavier's is the only high school in Nepal that is accredited by Cambridge University in England as well as by all universities in the United States.

*"Since 1956, only two of my students have failed the Cambridge University exam", says Father Moran, "and 50% have straight A's. Each year when my five students apply for the Nepalese scholarships in medicine, they are tops among the two or three thousand applicants in India."*

Father Moran is well known as a humanitarian. *"He lends a hand wherever there is a need; he's called on in all sorts of emergencies. A scholar, a manager and diplomat - he never discusses government policy or plays a role in politics - he is also a craftsman who can do all kinds of work, including plumbing and car repairs. He's even an amateur doctor."*

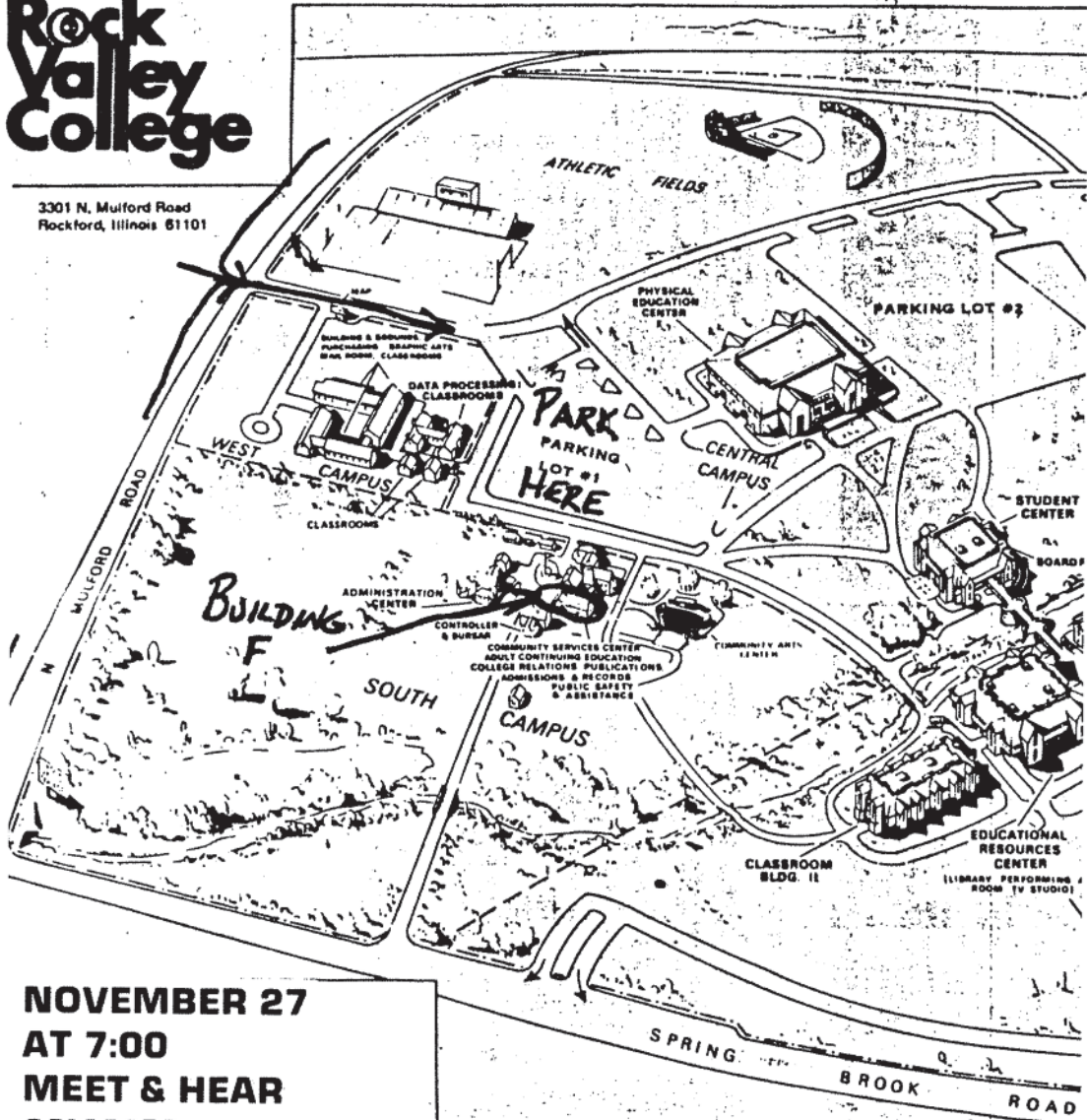
Rockford Amateur Radio Association is proud and honored to present the distinguished Father Moran as guest speaker at our November 27 meeting.

-73, Bruce, KB9OW

*Bruce*

# Rock Valley College

3301 N. Mulford Road  
Rockford, Illinois 61101



**NOVEMBER 27  
AT 7:00  
MEET & HEAR  
9N1MM of NEPAL**

**TALK-IN .01-.61**



# Up Close & Personal

With 'Old Man Winter' about to bless this great land of ours, I thought you would like an up date as to RARA's nets held through out each week.

For those of us who awake around 5:30 am, 2 meters is where the action is. On the Rockford EARS Repeater (146.01/.61) traffic from mobiles begins to fill the airwaves. Gary-WA9JFM and Bob-W9IGB are enroute to their work QTH's. Gary has the longest distance to travel as he hails from the Wisconsin area. Then around 6:00m Dale-KC9BN and MoeN0CCE begin to flap their jaws. Moe is enroute to school while Dale's home having a cup of coffee, looking for his dress slacks and talking on 2 meters all at the same time.

In the past years Rockford area hams were able to check into what was known as the *LABOR NET*. Lee-W9ZZL held morning nets to greet area motorists. However, due to his health, Lee had to discontinue net operations. Boy it sure would be nice to hear the *LABOR NET* back on the air.

Bill-KB9UR has been doing a fantastic job in conducting both the 2 and 10 *METER NETS* held each Monday evening. Bill has expressed appreciation for the number of check-ins each week, however he is concerned about the lack of traffic. Bill explains, traffic as related to amateur radio can come from many differend sources such as - QST, 73, other publications or other nets. Not all hams read these magazines from cover to cover. So pick out an article and bring it up for discussion.

As of last month Bill has recruited Steve-KB9IW to assist him in acting as net control. Steve will take over as net control on all the odd

Monday's while Bill will take all the even Monday's. They both work at the same place so it will be easy for them to exchange information.

One net which is in need of more participation and possibly a new net control operator is the Thursday *CW NET*. Jim-K19F has mentioned that check-ins are few. (*About 2 or 3 a week*). This could be due to the speed which Jim is sending. Jim explains, "**I CQ at several different speeds and work the people at what ever speed they check in at. If an extra is on the list ahead of a novice, then the novice has to listen to code that is fast. If the novice is first, the extra waits for the slower novice.**" When asked Jim admitted another control station would be nice.

Other nets to take part in are the *BLACKHAWK VALLEY 10-X* held each Wednesday and the 6 *METER NET* held nightly. Steve-KB9YX has been net control since the group went on the air in 1978. The 6 *METER NET* has a rotating net control system with about 10 regular checkins.

In conclusion, I would like to extend a hardy thank you to those people presently acting as net controls. They deserve the club's support for their time. So then, come on, fire up the old rig and spend a few minutes with your fellow hams.

-73, Jim, WD9FVF

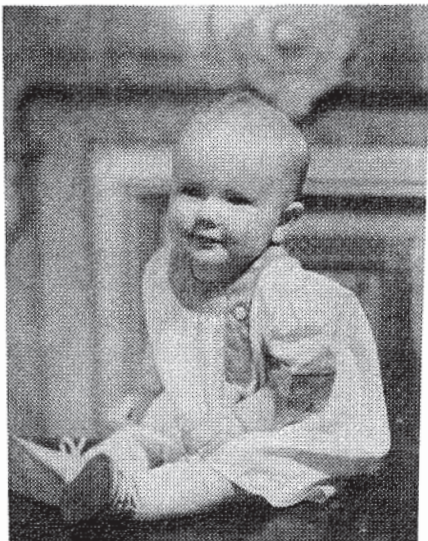
*If anyone would like to be the net control station of the **LABOR NET** please contact Sharon Harlan-WB9SFT. During the winter months this net is surely needed.*



Jim



# YL News



**I Also Love "88"**

1. Born in Rockford.
2. Blue eyes, blond curly locks.
3. Generous profile.
4. Likes Apple Pie.
5. In the past has been closely associated with large volumes of liquid.

*Good Luck with this one!*

*Gene Melton*

-73, KB9PC

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

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**1981**

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# QSL

Most of us at some time or another have occasion to ask our fellow ham to confirm a QSO with a QSL. Either to fill up an empty drawer in the operating desk, to hide an ugly spot on the wall, or to be able to apply for an award. There are a number of options for both stateside and DX; this short article will hopefully be of help.

## OUTGOING DX

- 1) Probably the most expensive way to get a card back from the foreign ham is to send him your QSL direct, along with a self addressed envelope & some International Reply Coupons for the return card. At the price of overseas postage and those IRC's, DXCC will come to more than some of us would like to spend. One advantage is that if the QSL does come back, it will be quickly.
- 2) Some hams run outgoing services for profit (probably small). They will send out so many of your cards for so much money. Check the ads in the various ham magazines.
- 3) As a member of the ARRL, you can send your cards to Newington where they are forwarded to the foreign bureaus. The cost is \$1.00 per pound of cards and a QST mailing label.
- 4) Since RARA is affiliated with the ARRL, its members can take advantage of the previous option as a group. Just bring your DX cards (sorted of course) to a club meeting, where they will be collected. The club will pick up the dollar per pound and postage costs. Don't forget the mailing label from your last copy of QST.

## INCOMING DX

With all these cards leaving "via buro" you need some way to collect them. The Northern Illinois DX Association runs the 9-land incoming bureau. They request a self-addressed stamped envelope (4½"x9") with your call printed in the upper left hand corner. When the envelope is full they send your cards out. Send your envelope to:

**NIDXA**  
**P.O. Box 519**  
**Elmhurst, IL 60126**

## STATESIDE

There is a QSL service for USA and VE hams run by N7BMY. No outgoing DX cards are handled. You can send her SASE's to claim your cards and any cards that you want to send out. According to the flyer there is no charge for this service, but donations are accepted.

Some DX have have what is called QSL managers. They send their manager the logs, and the manager takes care of the QSL chores. This makes it easier for us since it costs only two first class stamps to confirm that rare one, as long as the manager is in the USA.

With this information you should be able to start collecting sacks full of QSL cards. The only difficult part remaining is to work the stations in the first place.

-73, AK9N



# Potpourri

Well gang - it's almost turkey time. As for me I am trying to figure a way to roast my turkey using all those leaves laying around my yard.

We have had a couple of antenna parties lately. Dale-KC9BN now has his KLM on his tower. He kept saying the weather was not good enough to put the beam up but what good amateur in his right mind would put up an antenna on a warm, bright, sunny day? AI-W9UFH also had a small antenna party. KC9BN and N9CCE helped AI take his 10 meter quad down so he could repair it and then put it back on the roof.

Recent upgrades: Dale-KA9BTA to advanced; Dennis-WD9GYW and Bill-KA9BBQ to general. All three are awaiting new calls. Do you ever feel like you are in a strange city when you listen on the local repeater and hear all the strange calls? It doesn't help any when the people with the new calls can not remember them and use the old one like a certain extra class Ham Rag Editor who shall remain nameless. Now if he can not remember who he is, how can we?

Ed-KA9IMZ had an interesting experience recently. Ed was working CW and latched on to a familiar call - WB9VLM with the name Bill. It sees Ed got himself a bootlegger. Speaking of bootleggers, Carol-KI9G worked one also. Only her bootleg contact was confirmed by the amateur holding the call sign.

KB9I reports there is a new repeater located in Woodstock. The frequency is 146.235 +600. WB9MMM recently spent a week in Mexico on business. Gene did not do any hamming but he did enjoy the food. Ask him about those "MILD" looking dishes sometime. Dick-N9UN is in Germany again, but only for a week this time. Or

is he back home for a week? I am not sure!!!

Here is something to think about. An interesting item appeared in a Milwaukee Ham Club paper concerning the rash of two-meter FM thefts. The article went on to say that with the large number of scanning type police monitors now being sold, the work of an enterprising thief has been made much easier. All an enterprising thief needs to do is go to a dealer of police scanners and buy crystals covering the amateur frequencies. He then sits around and listens and will probably hear some Ham say that he is going to stop in at some particular store for an hour or so. With this information, the thief then drives over to this particular location looking for an amateur license plate or antenna and then proceeds to remove the two-meter equipment. It is a simple task to perform; and to the thief the cost of a scanner is just a drop in the bucket. Think about this the next time you say on the air that you will be at a given location for an hour or so.

Vito Fiore-K9UCM and his family have left the Rockford area for the warmer climate of South Carolina. Vito has accepted the position of Director of the Microelectronics Center for Innovation at Tri-County Technical College in Pendleton. He will also soon begin graduate work on a PhD in Electrical and Computer Engineering at Clemson University. I am sure all of you join with me to wish Vito well in his new career.

-73, Shari, WB9SFT





# Ham Mart

## FOR SALE

Kenwood TS-520, \$425. 6.3 Volt C.T. 20 Amp Filament Transformer \$8. A 5 volt at 21 Amp \$8. Two 813's \$4 each. Call Chuck-W9JLN at 397-2265.

## FOR SALE

## FOR SALE

Kenwood TR7400A 2 meter transceiver with Drake touchtone mike, and Cricket hump mount. Speaker \$250. Call Roger-WB9VLN at 874-5050.

## FOR SALE

## WANTED

Truck frame with or without wheels & axle or camping trailer frame, suitable for building 16 to 18 foot trailer. Little money down, littler payments. Call Frank-KB9KH at 397-6966 or Gene-AK9N at 654-0675.

## WANTED

## FOR SALE

Yaesu FT101EX transceiver. 10 to 160 meters. Mint condition. AM & CW Filters, RF Speech Processor, Fan and Manual. One owner. \$550 or best offer. Call Tom-N9BUL in Beloit at 1-608-365-0854.

## FOR SALE

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P.O. BOX 1744 ROCKFORD, ILLINOIS 61110**

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BULK RATE  
U. S. POSTAGE

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ROCKFORD, IL  
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## NETS;

28.7 Mhz. Monday 9:00 P.M.  
50.4 Mhz. Nightly 9:00 P.M.  
146.01/.61 Mhz. Monday 8:00 P.M.

**BLACK HAWK VALLEY  
TEN TEN INTERNATIONAL**  
28.925 Mhz. Wednesday 9:00 P.M.  
21.130 Mhz. Thursday 9:00 P.M.