

# HAM RAG



## RARA Mission Statement

A member association with common interest of public service to the community through Amateur Radio

## December 2007

### President's Corner

At the board meeting on 11-28 David and Sue Peterson notified the board they have decided to not take their elected positions. So with that in mind we are going to have a Special Election at the December meeting. It is very important for all members come vote and help fill those positions.

I have decided to remain a member of the club and try and help make things better this year. I want to see this club grow in membership and really get something accomplished this next year. We are a "Special Service Club" as such we should be doing more service to earn that. In my note a couple months ago I stated if you're not part of the solution, you're part of the problem. I again reiterate this. I am trying to make a personal example by not quitting now. I felt like I was part of the problem was choosing to quit. Instead I'm going to grab this bull by the horns and see what I can do to steer "Ed note.. mispelled on purpose" the club back in the right direction. I want to try and bring some more new members in and try and make the best of what time I have remaining.

I got a rather not nice letter from a former member about how "poor" my tenure went this year. I was frankly surprised by some of the comments. I would have preferred the person address those complaints to me personally or even to the board before quitting. I also never received an offer of help from said person. I feel that was completely unfair. I am easy to get a hold of and if anyone has something to say.. Speak up!.. I'm not a tiny fragile person.

I freely admit to making mistakes and for that I am sorry. However, this was my first attempt at doing anything like this. I also have not had the normal support structure behind me. My VP has mostly been in absentia, due to personal problems, and finally resigned near the end of his term. As understandable as it was, I really needed that positions help. It was not available to me. VP is just as important of a position as mine. I did the best I could to fill both sets of shoes. Same thing with the chairs appointed by the president. I had a very difficult time getting volunteers. As a club lets try and get some real go getters this year and have a blast with this. I will take the breakfast in the park this year. Field Day is already set with a chair. So lets get those going and do some really fun things this year.

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### NEXT MEETING

**Friday**

**December 14, 2007**

#### PROGRAM

Special Election for President and Secretary

Gene Young, N9MXQ

Go Packs

#### LOCATION:

St. Anthony Hospital  
5666 E. State Street  
Rockford, IL

**Rockford Amateur Radio Assoc.**

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I have some ideas for a kit building session or two. I also am planning on constructing a new dual band copper J-Pole. So if anyone is interested please let me know and we can just as easy assemble 10 as 1. They work fantastic and are cheap.

I am also planning a "Nuts and Volts" session at our next meeting. If you have a question about a project your working on or something cool you have done, something your trying to figure our or just something "gee wiz that's cool!" bring those idea's and comments with you at the next meeting!

I got a new call over the Thanksgiving holiday. W9DRR . It finally became available, and now that I have my Amateur Extra, I treated myself to a new call.

My new email is [w9drr@live.com](mailto:w9drr@live.com)

Thanks for putting up with me this year!  
Don W9DRR

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## GENERAL AND TECH CLASSES TO BE HELD IN THE SPRING AT Rock Valley

I have scheduled the 2008 ham class for spring of next year.

Tech Class 3/15 and 3/22, 2008

General Class 4/26 and 5/3, 2008

I will pass along any further information as the classes get closer. All potential students must register at Rock Valley College. Tell everyone that books are included in the class tuition. If any one wishes to assist in presenting the classes please contact me.

Carl, W9TQ



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## EDITOR'S QRM

2007 is almost over and when I look back over this past year it may seem that the club has not done very much, but there are some things that stand out in my mind that were very good. First of all we had a good turn-out for the banquet in January. Then we had a wonderful turn-out to help with the ARISS contact. That was two full days of putting up antennas and coax, the contact and then tearing it all down. Then there was Field Day. Even if our score was not high, we had Field Day and I think most who were out at the site had a good time. There were other activities also that take place every year, and it seems as though we kept busy all year.

Did you know that there is a slow speed code net on the third Wednesday of every month? If you are interested in practicing code tune in to the K9YA code practice net on Wednesday, December 19th, at 7:00 pm. The net lasts an hour. Just listen for CQ Slow Net--send your callsign. The net control will QRS to the speed of the slowest op. They are there to have fun and practice code. The frequency is 7.121 Mhz +/- QRM.

Be sure to get your reservation in for the club banquet next month. We need 30 people to have a private room. The selections for the meal is elsewhere in the Ham Rag. Also don't forget to fill out the Ham of The Year nomination form and get it to Dan, KC9ATR, by the next club meeting. His committee will be meeting right after the regular meeting to pick the Ham of the Year.

I want to take this time to wish everyone a very Merry Christmas and a safe and prosperous New Year.

73,

Shari, N9SH

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### SPECIAL BULLETIN FROM ARRL

From ARRL Headquarters  
Newington CT November 5, 2007  
To all radio amateurs

Motorola buys Yaesu

Motorola USA has announced its intention to launch a tender offer to acquire a controlling interest in Vertex Standard Co, Ltd. Vertex Standard is the parent company of Yaesu. Motorola will own 80 percent of Vertex Standard; Tokogiken, a privately held Japanese company, controlled by current president and CEO of Vertex Standard Jun Hasegawa, will retain 20 percent, forming a joint venture. The total purchase price for 80 percent of the outstanding shares on a fully diluted basis will be approximately US \$108 million.

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## *Lessons In Electric Circuits*

A free series of textbooks on the subjects of electricity and electronics

**Here is a cool web site for learning or re-freshing your electronic knowledge.**

I found it from someone pointing to the Vol II - Transmission line page and was impressed, after which I searched back to the main page. Have fun and learn lots!

Gene - WB9MMM

<http://www.ibiblio.org/obp/electricCircuits>

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# ARES News

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2008

<u>Race</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>Day</u>	<u>Who Coordinates</u>	<u>No. of Hams</u>
Rock Cut Trail Runs	Jan/Feb/March	3 <sup>rd</sup> Saturdays	John, kc9ied	4 - 6
Army Johnson	April 5	Saturday	Gene, ka9bod	6 - 7
OSF Heritage Run	April 20	Sunday	John, kc9ied	11 - 12
Special Olympics	May	Saturday	Rocky, n9ocw	6 - 7
Rockford Marathon & 1/2 Marathon	May 18	Sunday	kc9ied & ka9bod	18 - 22
Rockton Triathlon	June 14	Saturday	Gene, ka9bod	6 - 7
Stateline YMCA 1/2 Marathon & 5K Race	June 28	Saturday	Gene ka9bod	TBA
Meld Run	July 4	Wednesday	John, kc9ied	5 - 6
Goldie Floberg	July 26	Saturday	Gene, ka9bod	6 - 7
State St Mile	August 9	Saturday	Gene, wb9mmm	13 - 14
Thin Mint Sprint	Sept 13	Saturday	Gene, ka9bod	6 - 7
Hobo Run Rock Cut	Sept 20	Sunday	John, kc9ied	6 - 7
Head of the Rock	October 5	Sunday	John, kc9ied	15 + (over 2 shifts)
Crop Walk	October 21	Sunday	John, kc9ied	4 - 6

*(Note: Event organizers may change date(s).)*

Any Amateur Radio Operator who wishes to become involved in one of the above events as an operator or coordinator may contact John Cotner – KC9IED or Gene Stankiewicz – KA9BOD to volunteer. All event volunteers will have coaching (Elmering) and support available. Participating in public service events is an excellent way to gain valuable experience in VHF & UHF field communication. There are often one or more HT radios available for loan to persons who may wish to volunteer for an event but who do not have a HT or mobile radio. Additionally, persons who have not previously worked an event may choose to be partnered with a more experienced operator for their first event, or two, until they can “learn the ropes”. Anyone who wishes to become more involved in coordinating or participating in these events is encouraged to contact Gene or John.

Thank you for your interest.

**Rockford Amateur Radio Assoc.**

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The next RARA board Meeting will be January 29, 2008, 7:00 pm at Saint Anthony Hospital. Board meetings are open to all members.

Contributions for the next Ham Rag are due by December 31, 2007 to be included in the January issue.

## **December 14 meeting: special election for president and secretary. Be sure and be there.**

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### **RARA BANQUET**

The RARA Banquet will be held on Saturday, January 12, 2008 at Lino's, 5611 East State Street. Cocktails will be at 6 PM and dinner at 7 PM.

The banquet menu will feature a 7-course dinner which includes: Relish tray, soup, garlic and pizza breads, Lino's special salad, a variety of pasta (Mostaccioli- Ravioli-Tortellini), coffee, and spumoni. There will be a cash bar.

Choices of meat main course will be:

Baked Lasagna (vegetarian)-----	\$16.00
Baked Chicken ala Lino-----	\$16.00
New York Strip Steak-----	\$24.00
Baked Cod-----	\$18.00

All prices include tax and tip. Remember if you worked at the On the Waterfront ticket booth this year you will get \$5.00 off for each shift that you worked. Supervisors and Assistant Supervisors will get their meals at no charge.

Please call Shari Harlan, N9SH, at 815-398-2683 by January 4, 2008 to make your reservation or send a check payable to RARA to: Shari Harlan, 5931 Alma Drive, Rockford, IL. 61108/

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### **2007 RARA Officers and Board**

President--Don Russell, W9DRR, 815-979-5532

Vice- President

Secretary--Chuck Derwent, K9SAN, 815-239-2247

Treasurer--Gene Harlan, WB9MMM, 815-398-2683

Directors:

Dan Hunt, KC9ATR, unlisted

Kurt Eversole, KE9NJ, unlisted

Carl Cacciatore, W9TQ, 815-3322479

Shari Harlan, N9SH, 815-398-2683

### **AREA REPEATERS**

146.610 - ENC/DEC pl 114.8 W9AXD

147.000 + ENC/DEC pl 114.8 W9AXD

223.880 - ENC/DEC pl 118.8 W9AXD

ATV input 1250 Mhz/ 434 Mhz W9ATN  
Output 421.25 Mhz - Cable Channel 57

146.805 - ENC/DEC pl 114.8 K9AMJ

224.4400 - ENC/DEC pl 118.8 K9AMJ

147.255 + ENC/DEC pl 114.8 N9MCS

## AMATEUR RADIO EXAM NOTICE

November 17th there were 14 applicants resulting in 2 new Technicians 1 new General and 8 Upgrades to General

### New License

Kristina M. Buisker Technician  
Shizuka Kakimoto Technician  
Donald R. Layng General

### Upgrades

Theodore Faber, N9WDO General  
Lawrance Glenn, KC9MJV General  
Terri Glenn, KC9MJW General  
Richard Fleming, KC9BCB General  
Joel Schroer, KC9MGS General  
Richard Rickert, KC9MDW General  
(note 2 did not want info released)

Northern Illinois Volunteer Examiners will be holding the next Amateur Radio exam session in Rockford, IL on Saturday, December 15, 2007.

### Location:

St. Anthony Hospital  
5666 E. State Street  
Rockford, Il

Exams will be held in the St Francis Room (just right of the front entrance after you enter).

Check-in is from 9:00 AM til 10:30 AM.

### What You Need To Bring To A W5YI-VEC Session

1. Your original Amateur License (unexpired or within the 2 year grace period) and a copy to attach to the paperwork.
2. Any valid CSCE that you are using for credit. Again the VE's have to see the original and have a copy to attach to the paperwork.
3. Two forms of Identification with your signature on them. One must be a picture ID (drivers license, passport, school ID, library card, credit card, etc.)
4. Test Fee \$14.00 cash or check. (please make checks payable to W5YI-VEC)

### Contact Information

Randy Scott, W9HL  
[W9HL@arrl.net](mailto:W9HL@arrl.net)

## FOR SALE

I have the following items for sale. They are from two estates of silent keys. All proceeds from the sale of these items will be forwarded to the heirs of the estates.

I can be contacted via land line at 847-825-7621 or email at [arttravels@comcast.net](mailto:arttravels@comcast.net)

### Most items have manuals or copies of manuals

Kenwood PC1A phone patch in original box \$40.00 Never used  
Kenwood 20 watt dummy load RD-20 in original box \$15.00  
Kenwood TS-130S with matching 20 amp power supply, \$225.00, No filters  
Drake UV3 144, 220,440 transceiver with new in the box remote mobile mount, two mics and external speaker \$200.00  
SWAN 400 transceiver with power supply \$100.00  
ICOM AT-55 auto antenna tuner with manual \$200.00  
ICOM PS-15 20 amp power supply \$50.00  
Icom filters pull outs, working. FL44a SSB, FL-45 CW narrow filter. All two \$50.00  
Drake low pass filters, \$15.00  
MFJ antenna tuner MFJ 969 \$100.00 current model  
MFJ 12 volt distribution power strip MFJ 1112 \$15.00  
MFJ Deluxe Versa Tuner II Model MFJ-949D \$35.00  
MFJ Deluxe electronic keyer MFJ-4978 \$25.00  
MFJ Mobile Antenna Tuner Model MFJ-945D \$40.00  
2 meter beam like new \$30.00  
440 beam like new \$25.00  
Heathkit Q-multiplier \$10.00  
Heathkit SWR meter \$10.00  
Swan Watt meter model WM-1500 \$50.00  
DIAWA watt/SWR meter Model CN-101 1.8—150MHZ \$50.00

Art Steinke WB9JKZ  
Trustee Boy Scouts W9BSA



Merry  
Christmas

Rockford Amateur Radio Assoc.

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# HAM OF THE YEAR---2007 NOMINATION

The Ham of the Year is an honor that is presented to the R.A.R.A. member who has contributed the most to the club and to amateur radio in general during the year. This year the selection will be made by a committee established to evaluate the nominations of deserving candidates from those submitted by club members.

Your nominee should be chosen using two basic criteria: The nominee must be a R.A.R.A. member and should have performed exemplary service for amateur radio during the year 2007.

We encourage you to take a few minutes to fill out the form below, or a facsimile of, completing all of the requested information. Nominations may be mailed to KC9ATR at the address below or handed to him, at the next club meeting. All nominations must be received by December 12, 2007. They will remain confidential. Your participation and early response will be appreciated.

Mail nominations to:  
Dan Hunt  
P.O. Box 3416  
Rockford, IL 61106

Nominee \_\_\_\_\_

Call Sign: \_\_\_\_\_

I nominate the above person for the RARA Ham of the Year-2007 award for the following reasons:

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P.O. Box 8465, Rockford, IL 61126

Email [n9sh@hampubs.com](mailto:n9sh@hampubs.com)

Web: [www.w9axd.org](http://www.w9axd.org)

NETS

Monday 8 PM 2 Meter 146.610 - 114.8

Thursday 7 PM ARES 147.255 + 114.8

Thursday 8 PM SATERN 146.61 - 114.8

# December 2007

## ROCKFORD AMATEUR RADIO ASSOCIATION MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

Single Adult: \$25.00 Adult w/Family: \$30.00

Single Senior: \$15.00 Senior w/Family: \$20.00

Student: \$15.00

Above rate includes the RARA monthly newsletter, Ham Rag, via email

Ham Rag Via USPS: \$12.00 extra

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Call Sign \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Home Phone \_\_\_\_\_ Work Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Email \_\_\_\_\_

Renewal \_\_\_\_\_ New \_\_\_\_\_ Retired \_\_\_\_\_

Radio Interests \_\_\_\_\_

Other Interests \_\_\_\_\_