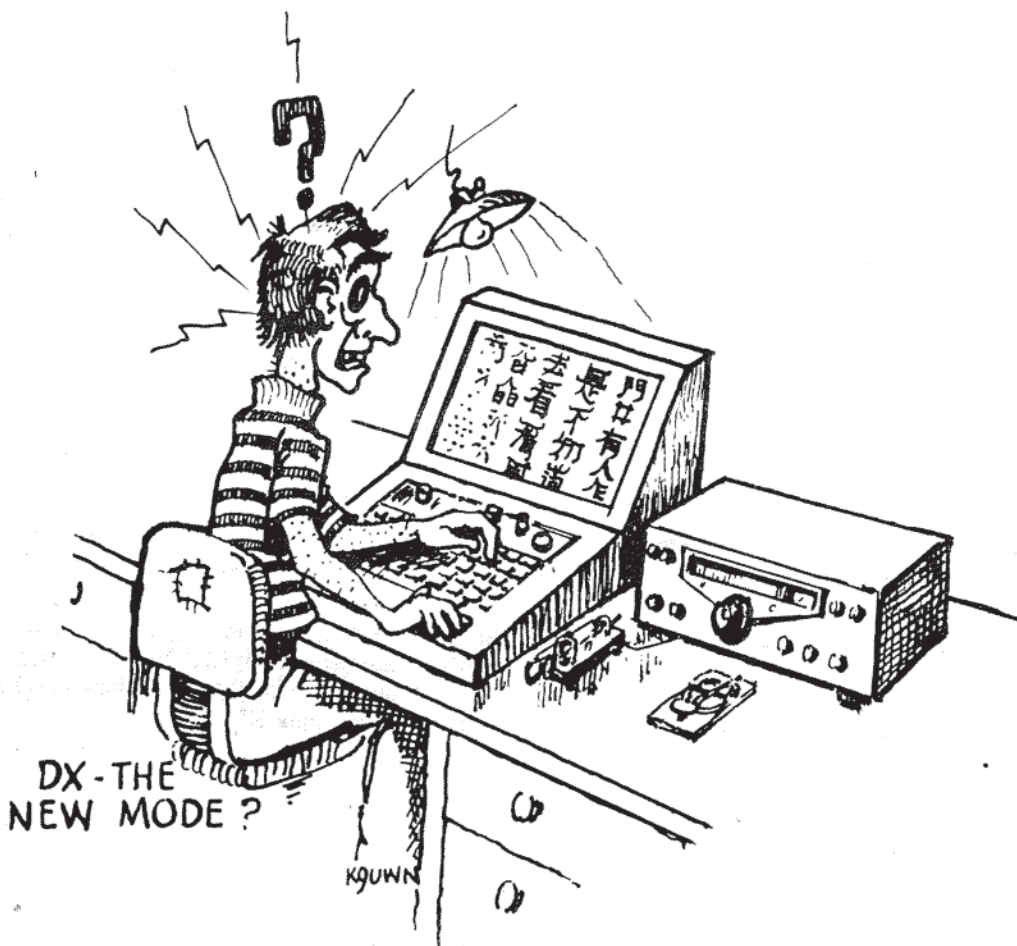


June 1981 ?

Ham Rag

Rockford Amateur Radio Association



President's Log

Thanks to Herb, K9AMJ, for a very interesting meeting on satellite reception (TV). That is the way to go for the biggest and best selection there is without commercials. Mr. Smith from the Harlem Community Center had a hard time getting us to remove our eyeballs from the TV and leave so he could close up.

As you all know, we have had trouble in getting our *HAM RAG* printed and mailed on time. I will not say much on it because I'm sure that Jim, WD9FVE, will talk about it. I'm glad that we were able to find Joe Galvanoni of Graphic Design to do our *HAM RAG* at a price we can afford. From what I've seen of his work, I think it will be as good if not better than our last printer of the *HAM RAG*.

In regard to the ham jackets, it will be necessary to have a minimum of 20 orders by the September general meeting in order to obtain the price of \$23.78 or under. At the last board meeting we discussed changes in design. It was found that any change in design would increase the price of the jackets substantially. Anyone wishing to add to the existing design would need to do so at their own tailoring expense. **This is your last chance to order.** Persons who have already paid for their jackets will have their money refunded if we do not get the required twenty orders.

The spark gap transmitter was a welcome display at the Rockford Public Library. I have received a letter from the A.R.R.L. museum, Mr. Laird Campbell-W1CUT, and they will be pleased to display the transmitter there in Newington, Connecticut. So with the help of a fellow member it will be shipped to them in the very near future in memory of Erney Storer-W9MAP. It will be shown as donated by Mrs. Storer and the Rockford Amateur Radio Association.

Field Day is coming up fast and Frank, KB9KH, needs help on equipment operators, etc. It seems like it's the same thing every year, at the last minute everything shows up. I'll say one thing I know from experience, that it is nerve racking. So give Frank a call and tell him what you can donate or help with for Field Day. Also Frank will talk on how Field Day is doing at our next meeting.

About two months ago, Bob-K9LOC wrote the club that he had to resign from being TVI chairman. So now we are honored to have Larry-K9LUX, as our TVI chairman. So if you have any TVI problems, Larry will be glad to hear from you.

I have been working on getting another membership directory together especially for the new members. I know we have been limited in the past on this because of costs, so the number of directories has been limited. Jo Ann, KA9DNQ, has offered to take on this job and make some new directories. If Jo Ann can work it out, they will be similar to the others. They will be bigger and without pictures, but each year they can be updated with drops and gains at no cost.

We have the 26 mile marathon coming up and Paul, K9RNR, and Bill, KB9UR, have been asked to help on this with 2 meter hand helds or portable rigs. So if you can help on July 4th, please give Paul or Bill a call and let them know.

In our May update *HAM RAG* it was said that we were going to vote on our dues structure. Well we did not because the *HAM RAG* did not get to all the club members in time for the voting. But, this time the *HAM RAG* will be on time and we will have a motion and vote. So it will be important that you show up to vote your feelings on this matter.

We will not be getting another *HAM RAG* until September, so I would like to wish everyone a happy, healthy, and safe summer vacation. Remember our annual picnic at Hononegah Forest Preserve on Sunday, August 9th at about 2:00 p.m. Hope to see you out there.

The June program will be put on by Ernie Stark-KA9FSK. It will be on home brew projects with show and tell. Ernie has already shown what it is on and about, and I'm sure you will find it as interesting as I did. They will be from the QST magazine that he has made. Call up 2 or 3 ham friends and/or fellow members to remind them of the time and place. It will be at the Harlem Community Center, 900 Roosevelt Road at 7 p.m. on Friday, June 12.

P.S.

I am sorry that at our last meeting I forgot to bring the A.R.R.L. flag. Nobody mentioned it, so maybe nobody remembered.

-73, KB9OW

Bruce

Editor's QRM

How about that - You actually got another *HAM RAG*. You noticed it even before it was open that it was different. It was folded funny and the type seemed somehow to have changed. You opened it up and quickly looked it over. Same number of pages, same writers, even a couple of cartoons. The articles all had a neat appearance with even margins on both sides. All these changes are due to our new printer - Joe Galvanoni of Graphic Design.


Before going any further, it seems only fitting to thank W. A. Whitney for their past help. In 1977 they became the printer of the *HAM RAG* at their own expense. They gave us high quality paper, photo processing, and the use of their facilities. Even the printer was an employee of theirs. The cost was very high. Besides easy reading, each year we were able to receive the highest marks in the annual Amateur Radio News Service Contest. The entire staff of the *HAM RAG* and the club thank the people at W. A. Whitney for their support. We understand the tight money in today's economy was the reason we lost them.

I am not sure just what the finished issue will look like, but the samples I have seen were very good. Like you, I will not be able to give any firm comments until I have had a chance to really dig into the finished product. If you have any comments - pro or con - let me know. The next issue of the *HAM RAG* is not until September which gives us plenty of time to make any changes that might be needed. So let me hear from you; it's your *HAM RAG*.

-73, WD9FVE



Due to commitments requiring more of his time, the *HAM RAG* sadly announces the loss of Gene Stankiewicz as distribution manager. He has handled this difficult task for a long time while making it look easy. Filling this vacancy will be Carol Holmes in distribution and Jo Ann Landis in circulation. Thanks again Gene, welcome to Carol and Jo Ann.



CQ Contest

June 6-7	NEW YORK QSO PARTY
June .. 13-14	ARRL VHF QSO PARTY
June .. 20-21	SMIRK SUMMER PARTY
	ALL - ASIAN DX CONTEST SSB
June 23	W1AW QUALIFYING RUN
June .. 27-28	FIELD DAY
June 30	WEST COAST QUAL RUN
July 1	CANADA CONTEST
July 4-5	VENEZUELAN CONTEST SSB
July 8	W1AW QUALIFYING RUN
July .. 11-12	*RADIOSPORT CONTEST
July .. 17-23	SWOT QSO PARTY
July .. 18-19	SUMMER QRP CONTEST
	COLOMBIAN INDEPENDANCE
	SEANET DX CONTEST CW
July .. 25-26	VENEZUELAN CONTEST CW
	COUNTRY HUNTERS
	CONTEST CW

There is quite a bit of activity to report on this month, so I will get right to it. After each contest is a list of the locals whose calls appeared in the results.

CAN-AM: SSB-WD9FVE (9-land winner), AK9N, WD9DBC, and KB9PC. CW-WD9DBC (9-land winner) and N9AUZ.

ARRL SWEEPSTAKES: SSB-AK9N, WD9FVE, K9GH, K9UIY, WB9VLM (KB9UR), WD9DBC, KB9PC, WB9PC, WB9SFT, WB9MMM, KB9LN, WD9FVH, WA9APA, KB9IW, WA9FFL, KA9GSV, N9UN, N9AWZ, W9VTL, WA9NTT and K9VMI. On CW WD9DBC, N9UN, AK9N and WB9VLM.

10-10 QSO PARTY: SSB-WB9VLM, AK9N and KG5E (ex-local from down in J.R.'s neck of the woods).

*** Sheets available from WD9FVE**

NOVICE ROUND-UP: KA9IMZ, KA9INA, KA9INB and KA9JEJ. Take note of the calls in this group. As these operators upgrade, they will be showing up as leaders in some of the other contests. They are also all from the same family.

Congratulations and a fine job to everyone this month. Seeing your calls in print makes up for those long nights, sore body parts, droopy eyes and dying bands. Well maybe just a little bit?

The feature contest for this month is **FIELD DAY**, June 27-28. As an exercise in emergency preparedness an all out contest, mosquito feed or a social event; it is the one that most people are glad to have over while looking forward to next year. Frank-KB9KH is pushing the club effort again this year and would appreciate hearing from anyone who is able to participate. One suggestion is to read the rules (May 1981 QST, page 80) before you venture forth, as with any contest. (After all else fails, dig out the instruction books).

Time to say 73 for now, hope to run across you on the bands this summer; see you back here in September.



Gene

AK9N

CQ DX

Summer is almost here and now is the time to work on the antennas for next winter. As the temperature warms up so will Ten meters with occasional openings mostly to the southern routes. Fifteen should be good if the number of sunspots holds while Twenty will more than likely be the best band. Remember to tune and tune listening for weak signals - not just strong ones. You never know what you will find.

DX information can be obtained from CQ and QST magazines but it is old before you read it. They do contain good QSL information. A couple of bulletins that are very good for the DX'er are *THE LONG ISLAND DX*, P.O. Box 173, Huntington, New York 11743 and *QRZ DX*, P.O. Box 494, Howe, Texas 75059.

QSLing is fun, but you must have patience. The QSL is usually sent direct, via bureau or sometimes to a QSL manager who handles the log cards for the DX station. **You must be in the log to receive a valid QSL.** Bureaus are usually the slowest way but the most economical. Direct cards usually require an IRC or a dollar to get a card quickly. (In some places this is against the law, check first.) It can become expensive if you do it often. Remember to send an envelope with your name and address printed clearly when QSLing direct. If you want to get cards from the W9 QSL bureau don't forget to keep a supply of envelopes at **P.O.Box 519, Elmhurst, Illinois 61026.** Try to QSL as soon as possible when you work a new country. I lost a XW8-Laos and VK9-Territory of New Guinea by waiting too long.

LOCAL NEWS AND INFORMATION

D4CBC	Cape Verde	May 17	28Mhz	K9LUX
YJ8RG	New Hebries	May 16	14Mhz	K9LUX
FO0TL	French Polynesia	May 15	14Mhz	K9LUX
YJ8NPS	Vanuati QSL-KB2KN		10-15	AK9N
H44RW	Solomon Island		15CW	AK9N
WH8AAL/HL	Somoa	May 14	14Mhz	K9LUX
TY9ER	Dahomey		20CW	AK9N
A7XD	Qatar		21.305	LIDX
LA1RR/ST0	Sudan		28Mhz	LIDX
HF0POL	South Shetland		28Mhz	LIDX
5H3AA	Tanzania		14Mhz	LIDX
XT2AW	Upper Volta		14Mhz	LIDX
FW8SC	Wallis Island	May 27	0430 14.250	KB9PC
A9XDD	Bahrain	May 28	0240 14.241	K9LUX
C3WK	Andorra	May 28	0330 14.212	K9LUX
JY4MB	Jordan		14Mhz	K9IKP
EA9IE	Melilla		14Mhz	K9IKP
CO2AL	Cuba		14Mhz	K9IKP



Well, there goes another lousy day, "Not one QSL card".

N9MP now has 288 countries worked and 280 confirmed. Good going - keep up the fine work.

Gene

Krenkel Awards

Preliminary:

The Soviet Central Radio Club of the USSR (address P.O.Box 88, Moscow) issues a variety of certificates. For almost all of them some knowledge of the USSR - geography is necessary. The administrative districts in the USSR are called "Oblasts". These "Oblasts" are bigger than countries and usually contain a large city, after which they are often named. Examples are Novosibirsk, Omsk, Tomsk and others. Depending on their political status there are Oblasts, Autonomous Oblasts, Republiks, Autonomous Republiks (ASR), furthermore National Territories (Okrug), which often have huge dimensions etc. For the certificates all are of equal value.

Oblasts are numbered at random and according to the different administrative forms several new ones were added since 1970, others have been left out so that today several numbers are unused (example 011). Others are hard to reach because they are prairie territories and can only be worked when a DX - pedition operates there (example 002, 042 etc). Call any station with a special prefix like EU, EK,EZfor this reason.

Oblasts are usually determined by the prefix and the first suffix - letter. The official Oblast - list shows mostly one, occasionally two suffix letters per district, however the Callbook lists several letters for larger Oblasts, On some occasions it may happen that two Oblasts share one letter.

The Soviet certificates cost 14 IRC's each (1 Rubel, but it is illegal to send Rubel - notes into the USSR!).

A certified list is ok for your application: don't send QSL - cards.

R - 100 - 0

This award may be earned by any licensed radio amateur in the world for working at least 100 different Oblasts. Also SWL's may apply.

There are 3 classes;

1. Work (hear) stations from 100 different Oblasts in the 80 m. band.
2. Same on 40 m.
3. Same on different bands.

The award is available for all CW or all SSB contacts only.

Minimal report is RST 337 or RS 33.

Valid are connections since 1-1-1957.

Certified list with 14 IRC's.

List must show date, call, mode, frequency (band).

Stickers for:

- a) 150 Oblasts
- b) all (currently) 183 Oblasts.

R-10-R

This award is available at all licensed amateurs and SWL's. For the R-10-R you must work the 10 USSR call districts UA, UN, UW, UK and RA1, UA, UC, UP, UQ etc. 2, UAetc. 3, UA etc. 4, UB, UO, UT, UY, etc. 5, UA, UD, UF, UG, etc. UL etc. 7, UH, UI, UJ, UM8, UA etc. 9 and UA etc. 0. All contacts must be made within 24 hours! also this certificate in CW or SSB only. All contacts since 7-1-1958 count. Minimal report 339 or 33. Cost same as R-100-0.

R-15-R

Worked radio stations of the 15 Republiks of the USSR.

This certificate is awarded to radio amateurs anywhere for working the 15 Republiks within 24 hours.

Prefixes are:

UA1-UA0, UC2, UP2, UQ2, UR2, UB5, U05, UD6, UG6, UF6, UL7, UH8, UI8, UJ8, UM8.

One or several bands may be used. CW or SSB only. Contacts since 1-1-1958. Minimal report, cost as above.

R100U - W100U

Worked 100 USSR stations. To be worked (or heard) are at least 100 Soviet stations on one or several bands. There must be at least 5 stations from the 9th call area (UA, RA, UK9). Valid are contacts from 1-1-1959. This certificate was issued in honor to the 100th birthday of the physicist Popow. Application like all above. Stickers for 350, 500 and 1000 stations.

R-6-K

This award required contacts to stations in 6 continents. (Same as WAK). In addition to the six continents (North and South America count separate) 3 contacts must be made with the European and the Asiatic part of the USSR. Three classes are available:

- 1) all 80 meters
- 2) all 40 meters
- 3) all bands mixed

Cost etc. like above.

R-150-S

This award is similar to the DXCC. Contact must be made with 150 different countries including the 15 Union Republics. The country list is equivalent to the DXCC list except the following counting as own country: Dickson Island (UAOB), Magadan Oblast (UAOI), Taymyr (UAOB), Tuva (UAOY), Chukotst (UAOK), Yakutsk (UAOQ,R) and Sachilin (UAOF). Same conditions as above. Stickers for 200, 250, 300 and 325 countries.

RAEM - AWARD

This award was issued to remember the Soviet Hero **Dr. Ernst Theodorowitsch KREKEL** (died 12-8-1971). He was personally known to many oldtimers.

Work 68 points for contacts beyond the northern and southern arctic circle. Each station counts only once. All contacts must be CW. Contacts with RAEM count at any time, others from December 24, 1972.

Points:

Contact with RAEM	15
Contact with Soviet station in the antarctis and drifting stations in the arctis	10
Contact with Soviet stations on arctic islands and the towns of Ziksi, Dickson, Pewek, Ambarschtschik, Ust, Olenjok, Wankarem, Kap Tscheljuskin, Kap Schmidt	5.
North of the polar circle	2

Send QSL cards and 14 IRC's with application.

Further information and a list of Oblasts available from N9UN.

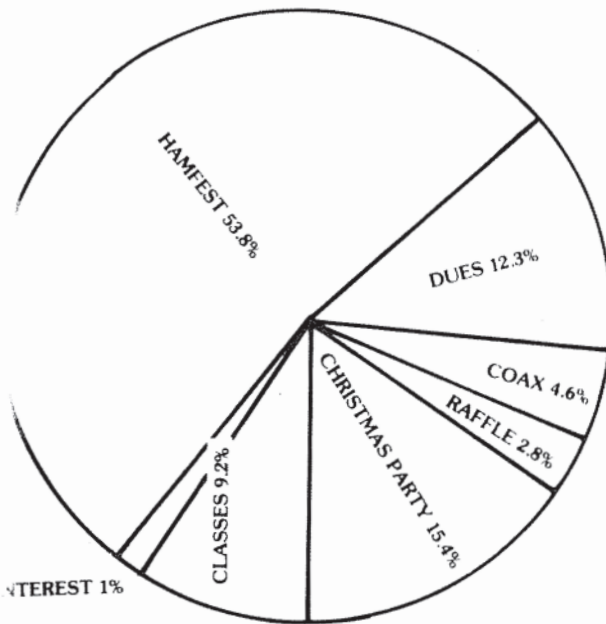


-73 Jack

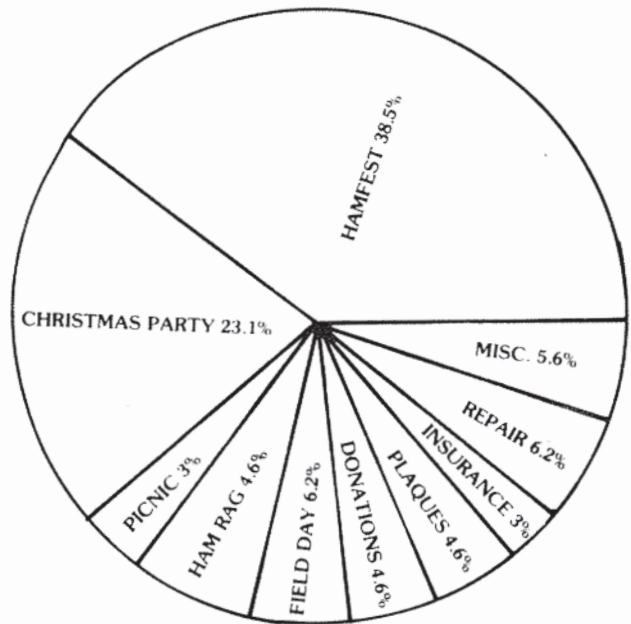
Budget

The following are pie slice charts of the 1981 RARA budget, which was adapted at a board meeting earlier this year. The total of each circle is not quite \$6500.00. The figures in each slice are percentages of the total.

INCOME



EXPENSE



I am sure that all of us know by now that our Hamfest State Convention for this year has been cancelled. To make up for the subsequent loss of income, we have to raise it by some other means or cut expenses by an equal amount. The board of Directors proposes to raise the dues. Since the club constitution presently specifies the dues, the constitution will have to be changed. We have three options:

- 1) No Change. Retain the present dues structure.
- 2) Change the constitution to allow the board of directors to determine any dues changes.
- 3) Change the constitution so that any dues changes have to be approved at a general membership meeting.

The board of directors favors the third option. The course of the club for the rest of this year and into next depends on our June meeting. See you there.



"Hello, how is DX?"

1. Licensed for 12 years.
2. Likes to travel.
3. Has always owned a pet.
4. Brown eyes.
5. Funny license plates.

I am sure that you all know that last month's baby was Sharon WB9SFT. Good luck on this month's baby. Hope to see you all at the next meeting. Here is another nice saying I came across.

"If there's one thing we should let others find out for themselves, it's how great we are."

Seaford

-73, KB9PC

Field Day

Here we are again, at that time of the year for the annual *Amateur Radio Field Day Event*. As usual, it is the last weekend in June, the 27th and 28th of the month. The rules for field day may be found in the may issue of QST on page 80. The only change for this year is the relaxation of the 15 minute rule for contacts above 30MHz. As before, rigs below 30MHz making a contact must remain on the same band for at least 15 minutes.

This year we will again use the Rockford Ski Club site on Rotary Road. For those who may not know where this site is located, two routes are possible. Rotary Road is an east-west blacktop about $\frac{3}{4}$ miles south of New Milford, Illinois on route 51 or two miles south of Blackhawk Road on Mulford Road. The ski site is about 2 miles east of route 51 or west of Mulford Road. A sign will be posted at the entrance. Bring plenty of insect repellent-HI. By the way, the 2 Field Day signs could use some repair, especially the post to be driven into the ground. Would someone like to repair them? We could also use one or two more.

We plan to have a rig on each band 80-10, 6 and 2 meters with the novices rotating between 80, 40, 15 and 10 meters. Hopefully this will cut down interference with multiple novice rigs. There should be plenty of operating time for everyone.

It is anticipated that we will begin setting up antennas on Friday evening, June 26th after 5 p.m. Our two climbers of last year will not be around this year, so any of you sky walkers would be a welcome site. We are still in need of 2 HF rigs, 2 and 6 meter rigs, rotors and control boxes.

As you can see, things have not changed much from past years. We need all kinds of people and equipment. We will be on the 2 and 10 meter nets on Monday night for any questions. You may also call me at home 397-6966.

Frank

-73, KB9KH

Remember when you hear this "BREAK BREAK" on the repeater frequencies it means **EMERGENCY TRAFFIC** and the frequency should be given at once to the breaking station. Also remember if you use this terminology you are alerting the control operators and anyone else listening that an emergency situation may exist. When any station wants to join a conversation all you need to do is give your call sign between transmissions. This is why we recommend a pause between transmissions - not only to let the repeater reset but give someone a chance to join the conversation.

On July 4th the club will again assist in the annual 26 mile marathon. Anyone wishing to help in this public event may get additional information by contacting Paul-K9RNR at 226-9080 or Bill-KB9UR at 623-7566.

RARA has been asked to help give radio coverage to Confederate Air Force when the air show comes to Rockford for three days over the fourth of July weekend. Needed are people who can give a couple of hours of their time on any one of the days. For more information call Sharon-WB9SFT at 398-2683

RARA's annual picnic will be held on August 9, 1981 at 2 p.m. in the Hononegah Forest preserve. Cost is \$5.00 per family and you need your own table service as well as a dish to pass. Dale and Jo Ann Landis are again co-chairmen and will be serving roast pig. It is a great feed and lots of fun, see you there.

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

OFFICERS			1981	DIRECTORS		
President	Bruce Hamilton	KB9OW	963-6606	Gene Harlan	WB9MMM	398-2683
V. Pres	Frank Baker	WB9OGD	623-2008	Jo Ann Landis	KA9DNQ	633-0520
Sec'y	Zygmunt Podgorny	W9MOS	968-1244	Bob Davidson	WA9NTT	877-6274
Treasurer	Gene Melton	AK9N	654-0675	Gene Stankiewicz	KA9BOD	226-1806
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	Jim Milhone	WD9FVE	633-9235	Jim Ambruoso	WD9FVF	654-3620
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	Carol Holms	KA9JHY	633-3249	Dick Steinhauser	N9UN	397-6653
Circulation Manager				Gertrude Kindell	KB9PC	963-4050
	Jo Ann Landis	KA9DNQ	633-0520	Sharon Harlan	WB9SFT	398-2683
Artists				Gene Duncan	K9IKP	393-4751
	Jack Stuman	K9UWN	399-3890	Dennis Eksten	W9SS	877-6768
	Bob Davidson	WA9NTT	877-6274			
	Gertrude Kindell	KB9PC	963-4050	Henry Choke	????	???????

Potpourri

Sunday, May 17th, was a good day for a few hungry people who turned out at the Hoffman House for the EARS sponsored brunch. We had a lot of good food and good conversation. Another Sunday in May - the 3rd to be exact RARA sponsored another of their famous fox hunts. WD9FVE and KB9LN tried their best to be nasty - and after taking the long way around KBOIW took first place honors. KB9YH, alias WD9APR, came in second. Jerry tried a new way to hunt. It seems Jerry left the starting point after taking his first reading, called his YL, Shirley, on the .795 autopatch and had her take a reading with his beam. Unfortunately she read a null. AK9N has the distinction of being "tail end charlie".

There are people out there that delight in confusing other people. Dale Mather, KA9JPA, now N9CDZ has recently upgraded to advanced and will have another new call before long. Lee Group, WD9HQU is awaiting his new advanced call. Congratulations on the upgrades. Other new calls in this area are N9BZT, Nancy; N9CCC, Dick; N9CCE, Moe; N9CCH, Chuck; N9CEZ, Brian; KB9WD, Dale; KB9YH, Jerry; and KB9YX, Steve. I don't know about the rest of you but I am sure glad the FCC will only let these people change their calls once, unless they upgrade again. I am having trouble keeping up.

WB9MMM is anxiously awaiting warmer weather so he can go sailing and work maritime mobile. Sailing did I say? Perhaps only in the back yard this year. Gene has acquired a 19 foot sailboat that he plans to repair and sail. This boat is a good companion to his fishing boat.

Speaking of fishing, Bill KB9UR, has just returned from somewhere in VE-land on one of his famous fishing trips. Wonder if we can get Bill to have a RARA fish fry???



WB9ILH, Ray is in the Alma Nelson Manor. Ray can be heard on 2 meters from time to time. WB8HVW, John, is home from St. Luke's in Milwaukee after undergoing triple by-pass surgery. John can also be heard on .61.

WBOOGD, Frank, is home from St. Anthony's after undergoing tests. Frank spent 5 days in the coronary unit. Thank goodness there was no heart attack.

WD9FVI, Russ and his YL, Jean, are the proud parents of Ronald Wayne.

Congratulations.

73, WB9SFT

Shari

Ham Mart

FOR SALE: Gem Quad 2-element antenna \$90
New Rohn 25-G tower sections \$45. each.
Call Frank, K9VMI, at 964-2923

FOR SALE: 18AVT-WB trap vertical 10-80 meter coverage.
Instructions. \$45. Call Frank, W9OVY, at 398-1957.

FOR TRADE OR SALE: Tech to general. Heathkit 2036 with 4MHz mod.
and mike. \$150. Pierce-Simpson "Gladding 25" with local xtals. \$75.
Call Floyd, K9CUQ, at 623-2680.

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

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U. S. POSTAGE**

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**ROCKFORD, IL
Permit No. 230**

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.**