



# HAM RAG

**Rockford Amateur Radio Association, Inc.**

Visit our website for more club and area ham information  
in the Rockford area at <http://rara.tripod.com>

**Nov & Dec 2003  
Holiday Edition**

## 2004 RARA Officers

**President:**

Gene Harlan, WB9MMM

**Vice-President:**

Scott Allshouse, KB9YRW

**Treasurer:**

Carl Cacciatore, W9TQ

**Secretary:**

Wendy Owano, KC9BCF

**Board of Directors:**

Nicholas Lager, KB9SKW

Gary Hilker, K9LJN

Larry Snyder, K0HNM

Dan Hunt, KC9ATR

**Ham Rag Editor**

John Auerswald, KA9SOG

The new Committee Chairpersons and Vice Chairpersons positions were created based of the 2003 RARA survey. Some positions have been filled, there are a lot of positions still available. The goal of these committees are to put the Ham back into Ham Meetings by educating club members about the different aspects of the hobby. Below is a list of the positions that are filled and the positions still open.

*(Continued on page 2)*

**The December meeting is at  
7:00 pm December 12, 2003**

The program for this month's meeting will be:

**Open Forum Night**

*Saint Anthony Medical Center  
5666 E. State Street Rockford, IL.*

To get to the meeting room go to the main entrance - turn right at desk - go to the end of hall to the meeting rooms.

## New Rates For Club Dues

The new dues schedule is as follows:

Single	\$30.00
Family	\$35.00
Senior	\$15.00
Senior Family	\$20.00
Student	\$15.00

With the increased costs of maintaining the repeaters, insurance, newsletter and other incurred costs the BOD reluctantly voted to increase dues for the first time in 5 years. You can beat the increase in dues by paying your 2004 membership by December 31, 2003.

## Ham of the Year nomination forms

must be submitted to Shari Harlan by December 12, 2003

**Awards Dinner January 9<sup>th</sup> at The Thunder Bay Restaurant at 6:00 PM. Please have your money into Mary Auerswald by December 31<sup>st</sup>.**

## New General Class Question Pool Released

NEWINGTON, CT, Dec 3, 2003--The Question Pool Committee (QPC) of the National Conference of Volunteer Examiner Coordinators has released a revised and expanded Amateur Radio General class (Element 3) question pool into the public domain. The new question pool becomes effective July 1, 2004, and must be used to generate all General written examinations administered on or after that date.

"The pool has been expanded to 432 questions," said ARRL VEC Manager Bart Jahnke, W9JJ, a member of the Question Pool Committee, who notes that all sub elements grew slightly. "The largest increase in questions this time around was in our Operating Procedures and Amateur Radio Practices sub elements," he said. The General class question pool does not contain any diagrams or symbols.

The new Element 3 question pool is available on the ARRL Amateur Exam Question Pools Web page in Adobe PDF and ASCII text format. It includes all questions and answers relating to Element 3. Question pools no longer are available via diskette or hard copy.

QPC Chairman Scotty Neustadter, W4WW, thanked all amateurs who contributed to the development of the syllabus or offered specific questions for inclusion. He said publishers, VECs and volunteer examiner teams are permitted to correct obvious minor typographical errors in the pool, but he asks that anyone spotting such errors notify him so the QPC can promulgate any necessary corrections.



*(Continued from page 1)*

**Elmer Coordinator** - ?  
**Elmer Coordinator Assistant** - Tim Peterson  
**Field Day Leader** - ?  
**Field Day Assistant** - ?  
**Fund Raising Leader** - ?  
**Fund Raising Assistant** - ?  
**Greeter** - John Lawrence  
**Greeter Assistant** - ?

### **Interest Group Leaders & Assistants**

(As many as member interest supports)

**HF modes & propagation** (1.8 - 50 MHz),  
**Dxing** - Gary Hilker & Gene Duncan  
**VHF modes & propagation** (50 - 300 MHz)  
Nick Lager  
**CW speed (0 to? Wpm) & CW Operating**  
**HF & VHF antennas & antenna/radiation theory** - Dave Bond & Jim Miller  
**Amateur Radio Emergency Services** -  
Sue Peters  
**Amateur radio television**  
Gene Harlan  
**Building hardware projects**  
**Fox hunts** (finding hidden operators)  
Nicholas Lager  
**Weather watching and warning**  
Scott Allshouse & Sue Peters  
**Public Information Officer** - Steve James  
**Public Info Officer Assistant** - Shari Harlan  
**Recognition Leader** - Shari Harlan  
**Recognition Leader Assistant** -  
Nicholas Lager  
**Recruiter** - Bob Davidson  
**Recruiter Assistant** - ?  
**Repeater Leader** - Herb Eckstein  
**Repeater Assistant** - ?  
**Service Leader** - Sue Peters  
**Service Leader Assistant** - ?  
**Speaker/Program Coordinator** -  
Scott Allshouse  
**Spkr/Pgm Coord Assistant** - ?  
**Sunshine Leader** - ?

If you are interested in any of the unfilled positions. Please contact Larry Snyder, KOHNM, for details and responsibilities of that position. We need club members to volunteer to make 2004 a successful year for RARA.

## Presidents Log for November/December 2003

This months log starts with a wish for a Happy and Joyous Holiday Season.

I would like to thank to this year's board of directors, John Auerswald, KA9SOG, Wendy Owano, KC9BCF, Rich Ludwig, K9PK, John Birly, AA9SK, Larry Snyder, K0HNM, Shari Harlan, N9SH and Gary Hilker, K9LJN for all their hard work this year. Also, I would like to wish Gene Harlan, WB9MMM and his board good luck in the coming year.

During the November board of directors meeting, it was voted by the current and agreed to by the new board members to increase the dues for RARA for 2004. The reason for this change is to cover expenses of the club, in 2003 the cost per member was \$40.00 per member for club expenses and the ham rag, and please keep in mind this cost did NOT include the cost of the truck. There has not been a dues increase in over 5 years and our cost as everyone else's has increased. The new dues schedule is as follows:

Single	\$30.00
Family	\$35.00
Senior	\$15.00
Senior Family	\$20.00
Student	\$15.00

You can beat the increase in dues by paying your 2004 membership by December 31, 2003.

Please keep in mind the Awards Dinner January 9<sup>th</sup> at The Thunder Bay Restaurant at 6:00 PM. Please have your money into Mary Auerswald by December 31<sup>st</sup>.

If you know of any hams that are not members of RARA or some of the members that have

not been to a meeting, please invite them to the December meeting.

As always, your comments and/or suggestions are always welcome, your officers and board members are here to serve you.

As this will be my last President's Log, I want to thank everyone for their support in the last 2 years, with your ideas for programs and helping with fundraisers to help the club go forward. I know you will give Gene Harlan and his board your support for the upcoming year.

Merry Christmas and Happy New Year

73 and see you at the meeting.

Scott, KB9YRW

## New Propagation Beacons For VHF and UHF

With the recent propagations above 50 MHz, Gary Bailey, WA4IOB, invites VHF operators to listen for his new 2 meter and 70 centimeter beacons. The transmitter are located in grid E M 73 near Snellville, Georgia about 25 miles east of Atlanta. The mode is CW on 144.285 MHz and 432.352 MHz with 2 watts output on each band. The 2 meter transmitter feeds a horizontal square loop. The 70-centimeter antenna is 4 half wave dipoles in a 90-degree horizontal quadrature configuration feedwith a 4-way power splitter. Both sign the call B B B W-A-4-I-O-B slash E M 73. Signal reports go to [grb734@bellsouth.net](mailto:grb734@bellsouth.net)

The monthly Board of Directors Meeting are held at Saint Anthony Medical Center 5666 E. State St. Rockford, IL on the last Tuesday of each month at 7:00 PM. *Except for December.*

**Rockford Amateur Radio Association  
Monthly meeting of the membership**

October 10, 2003

St. Anthony Hospital

RARA President Scott Allshouse, KB9YRW, called the meeting to order at 7:09 pm.

**Minutes:** The minutes from the September meeting were read by Secretary Wendy Owano, KC9BCF. Tim Peterson, KC9DNN moved to accept the minutes as read, second by Larry Snyder, K0HNM, the motion carried.

**Treasurer's Report:** Treasurer Rich Ludwig, K9PK, reported a balance of \$2,428.21 as of September 29, 2003 a **net loss of \$154.88**. The balance is **down \$1,044.31** as compared with last year. Shari Harlan, N9SH moved to accept the report as presented, second by Larry Snyder, the motion was carried.

**Old Business:** Larry Snyder distributed the club survey results. His presentation explained "action items" and newly-created leadership positions that the results indicated what the membership wanted. Interest group leaders should reserve their group meeting time with Larry; this is to prevent multiple groups from meeting at the same time. Contact Larry if you need a copy of the summary or if you have an interest in a leadership positions or interest group leader.

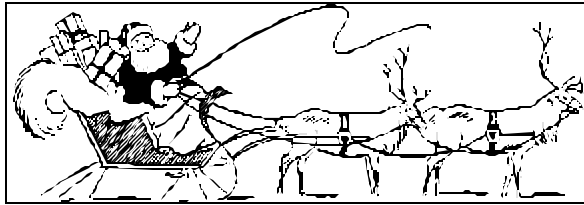
**Truck Committee:** The truck has been advertised for sale; no buyers yet.

**Ham Rag E-mail:** If you would like to help the club save mailing expenses for the Ham Rag, please forward your e-mail address to John Auerswald, KA9SOG. He will post the Ham Rag on the website and send a reminder to those who can access the news via the internet.

**RARA Banquet:** Please submit your reservations for the January 9, 2004, event to Mary Auerswald, KC9AKC as soon as possible.

**New Business:** Shari reported that the Boy Scout JOTA event is October 18, 2003 from 10am-2pm. Contact Shari if you are able to help.

Gene Harlan, WB9MMM, reported that the ATV



repeater will be on the air soon. No permanent site has been established yet.

Scott reported that Gary Hilker, K9LJN was appointed to the board to fill a vacant position. Gary and Gene Duncan, W9GD are the DX interest group leaders.

Scott reported that the club revenue from OTW was **\$1,576.00**. **Thanks to all who helped.**

The new officers for 2004 are: Gene Harlan, President; Scott Allshouse, Vice-president; Carl Cacciatore W9TQ, Treasurer; Wendy Owano, Secretary. Board members are: Larry Snyder, Gary Hilker, Dan Hunt, KC9ATR, and Nicholas Lager, KB9SKW.

Larry Carlstrom, K9LC moved to adjourn the meeting, second by Jim Miller, W4JR, motion carried.

Respectfully Submitted,

Wendy Owano, KC9BCF  
RARA Secretary



***RARA Officers for 2003***

**President:** Scott Allshouse KB9YRW  
**Vice President:** John Auerswald KA9SOG  
**Secretary:** Wendy Owano KC9BCF  
**Treasurer:** Rich Ludwig K9PK  
**Director:** Shari Harlan N9SH  
**Director:** Gary Hilker K9LJN  
**Director:** John Birly AA9SK  
**Director:** Larry Snyder K0HNM  
**Newsletter and Web Site:**  
John Auerswald KA9SOG

**Rockford Amateur Radio Association  
Monthly meeting of the membership**

November 14, 2003

St. Anthony Hospital

RARA President Scott Allshouse, KB9YRW, called the meeting to order at 7:06 pm.

Scott apologized that the Ham Rag did not get mailed this month. The next issue will be combined for the months of November/December.

**Minutes:** The minutes from the October meeting were read by Secretary Wendy Owano, KC9BCF. John Lawrence, N9OTC moved to accept the minutes as read, second by Tim Peterson, KC9DNN, motion carried.

**Treasurer's Report:** Treasurer Rich Ludwig, K9PK, reported a balance of \$3,864.21 as of October 27, 2003 a **net gain of \$1,434.32**. The balance is **down \$987.29** as compared with last year. Tim Peterson moved to accept the report as presented, second by Shari Harlan, N9SH motion carried.

**Old Business:** John Lawrence, N9OTC visited the website for the club and was unable to access the minutes from recent club meetings. John Auerswald, KA9SOG will check into this. John Lawrence also voiced a need to get in touch with someone when there is a problem with a repeater.

**Ham Rag E-mail:** If you would like to help the club save mailing expenses for the Ham Rag, please forward your e-mail address to Treasurer Rich Ludwig.

**JOTA:** Shari Harlan reported that the event went well. Nicholas Lager, KB9SKW, Gene Harlan, WB9MMM, and Shari were at the Boy Scout office. Tim Peterson and Gene Duncan, W9GD also helped with additional contacts.

**501c3 Status:** The club already qualifies for this status, but paperwork will be filed officially to help the club with filing for any

grants in the future.

**Truck:** The truck was sold for \$1,500.00.

**Club Survey:** Leadership positions are in need of being filled. Bob Davidson, NA9NTT has agreed to be the chairman of Member Recruitment.

**Interest Group Reports**

**ATV:** Gene Harlan reported that the repeater is on in beacon-mode with the antenna located at Harlan's house at 40 feet. The next meeting is 9am, 11-22-03, at Gene's house.

**Public Information Officer:** Steve James, KA9NPT distributed lists of ham fests and events and equipment.

**DX:** Gary Hilker, K9LJN asked that his group meet during the break of this meeting.

**Service Leader:** Sue Peters, KA9GNR reported that a Police Week event will be held at the Clock Tower Resort on May 4, 5, and 6. Volunteers are needed to staff a booth on how to use ham radio in an emergency situation.

**New Business:** Shari Harlan requested that Ham of the Year nomination forms be submitted to her by December 12, 2003. The committee is comprised of Shari and past winners of the award.

**Awareness Day:** Dan Hunt, KC9ATR reported that a booth at the Metro Centre Home Show costs \$345.

Bradley Smith, WW9WWW asked that everyone at the membership meetings quickly introduce themselves so members will become familiar with each other.

John Lawrence reminded everyone that there is a net on the 610 repeater every Monday night.

Eric Hultgren, N9MCS requested that 911 be re-established on the autopatch.

Gene Harlan did a short presentation on notch

*(Continued on page 6)*

*(Continued from page 5)*

filters.

A presentation about fox hunting was given by Dennis Gray, N9XKH and Nicholas Lager, KB9SKW.

Shari moved to adjourn the meeting, second by Larry Snyder, K0HNM, motion carried.

Respectfully Submitted,

Wendy Owano, KC9BCF  
RARA Secretary



## **FCC Begins 'Interference Temperature' Proceeding:**

The FCC has begun an inquiry and proposed rule making proceeding focusing on the concept of "interference temperature" as a means to quantify and manage interference among different services. The interference temperature model "takes into account the actual cumulative radio frequency energy from transmissions" and would "set a maximum cap on the aggregate of these transmissions," the FCC said in a public notice. The Commission's current primary approach to manage interference is to specify and limit the power output of individual devices.

The FCC said the interference temperature approach "may facilitate more intensive use of the radio spectrum, creating the opportunities for new services and improving the predictability of any interference to existing services.

The FCC has not yet released the Notice of Inquiry and Notice of Proposed Rule Making, adopted November 13 as ET Docket 03-237. The Commission will seek comment on various technical rules that would establish procedures and use the interference temperature model on a limited basis in the 6525-6700 MHz band and portions of the 12.75-13.25 GHz band

*This may allow BPL to get around part 15 rules, perhaps?*

## **UO-14 Declared Dead after 14 years of service**

The UO-14 satellite has been declared officially dead after nearly 14 years in orbit, the Mission Control Centre at the Surrey Satellite Technology Ltd (SSTL) Center for Satellite Engineering Research reported November 11.

AMSAT-UK Chairman Martin Sweeting, G3YJO, said one of the NiCad battery cells became exhausted, which caused UO-14's transmitter to shut down due to undervoltage.

The popular and heavily used FM satellite quit working in August. Ground controller Chris Jackson, G7UPN, was able to reset the satellite at one time, but he later determined that UO-14 had suffered a primary power system failure.

Launched in 1990, UoSAT-OSCAR-14 pioneered the PACSAT communication concept as the first 9.6 kbps Amateur Radio data communications satellite. It became best known in recent years as an FM "easy sat" repeater. UO-14 completed over 72,000 orbits.

The loss of UO-14 leaves amateurs with SO-41 and SO-50 as the only two LEO FM voice satellites now in operation, although the planned 2004 launches of the OSCAR-ECHO and VUSAT could help fill in the void. ECHO is planned for launch next March 31.

**Have anything or would like to submit an article to be put in the Ham Rag or the website?  
Contact me by e-mail at [ka9sog@arrl.net](mailto:ka9sog@arrl.net) and visit <http://rara.tripod.com> for any late breaking news and information.  
Please submit any articles before the 1st of each month.**

## Antenna and Tower Safety Tower Tips

Towers have design load limitations. Make very sure the tower you consider has the capacity to safely handle the antenna(s) you intend to install in the kind of environment that is applicable to your location.

The antenna must be located in such a position that *it cannot possibly tangle with power lines, both during normal operation or if the structure should fall.*

Sufficient yard space must be available to position a guyed tower properly. A rule of thumb is that the guy anchors should be between 60% and 80% of the tower height in distance from the base of the tower.

Provisions must be made to keep children from climbing the support.

Soil conditions at the tower site should be investigated. The footings need to be designed around actual soil conditions, particularly on a rocky site.

Beware of used towers. Have them professionally inspected and contact the manufacturer for installation criteria.

Check with your local building officials.

Liability may be increased with a tower installation. Check with your insurer to ensure your coverage is adequate.

Make sure you have all the tools needed before starting. Some specialized tools (such as a gin pole) may be required.

The assembly crew as well as those climbing the tower during erection must wear hard hats and use appropriate personal protective equipment including gloves, boots, climbing belt or harness. Don't forget that lifelines are needed when the belt is unattached from the tower while moving.

Assign someone in the erection crew to monitor the use of safety equipment.

After the tower is installed, keep the installation safe. Inspection and maintenance recommended by the tower's manufacturer should be carefully followed.

If making attachments to houses or installations on roofs, have a qualified person determine that the method is adequate and the loading conditions are satisfactory.

Avoid metal ladders if there are any utility lines in the vicinity. Assume that any line is energized—including cable television and telephone lines.

## ROHN Announces Asset Purchase Agreement:

Amateur Radio and telecommunications industry tower manufacturer ROHN Industries <http://www.rohnnet.com/> has announced that it's entered into an asset purchase agreement with SPX Corporation <http://www.spx.com/>, a global, multi-industry company. ROHN filed September 16 for Chapter 11 (debtor-in-possession) relief in the US Bankruptcy Court for the Southern District of Indiana. The deal will include ROHN subsidiaries that are party to the bankruptcy proceeding.

"The asset purchase agreement provides for the sale of certain assets of the company and the affected subsidiaries to SPX Corporation for the amount of \$5,450,000," ROHN said in a news release.

Through its Broadcast and Communication Systems and Services division, SPX provides analog and digital TV and FM systems, high-frequency and medium-frequency antennas, transmission lines, towers and radio frequency filter systems for the broadcast market. SPX also is a major site developer for the PCS/cellular industry.

The bankruptcy court must approve the ROHN-SPX agreement. ROHN filed an amended motion with the court November 13 seeking the court's approval of the asset sale and authority to sell the assets "after an opportunity is provided for competitive bidding." A hearing to consider proposed bid procedures is scheduled for November 25, and the bidding auction is set for December 8. The bankruptcy court is to consider approval of the asset sale December 9.

In addition to its other products and services, ROHN manufactures towers, antenna support structures and "infrastructure equipment" for the telecommunications industry. Horace Ward is ROHN's chief executive officer. The company consolidated its manufacturing operations in Frankfort, Indiana, earlier this year.

## Tower Fines

The fines for tower related violations continue. The latest is an \$8000 fine issued to the Barinowski Investment Company, L P. Barinowski is the owner of a tower located near Savannah, Georgia. It was cited for failure to clean and repaint its antenna structure to maintain good visibility. The tower is 90 ft tall but actual elevation is unknown or if it is in a height restricted area.

*Could Amateur Radio towers above 75 ft tall be next to have fines with the gains of PRB1 legislation?*



## NEC Electrical Code vs. Good RF Grounding

Grounding is probably the source of the greatest confusion in the understanding of electrical power distribution. The National Electric Code does little to clear this fog of misunderstanding. The best way to ground your equipment is not only determined by, "Earth" grounding in itself, but also should be done in accordance to Electrical Code.

While it may be true in our radio world that you can never have enough grounding for your equipment, The National Electrical Code might not agree with the philosophy of installing a separate ground rod at your home for your radio equipment.

According to the National Electric Code, the telephone service, cable TV, satellite, and other antenna grounds must be connected to the same ground point of the incoming electrical service to provide proper protection. Many times this is not done correctly.

Power surges can enter the house through the electrical, cable TV (or satellite dish cable), or telephone services. According to the National Electrical Code, when designing and building a new ham shack, you should locate the cable TV service and telephone service entrance into the house near the electrical service entrance. This will help in two ways:

It is very important that each of these systems be grounded to the same physical ground point as the electrical service. In all cases, the cable TV and telephone grounds must be physically connected to the ground of the electrical system. A ground wire must be run from the telephone and the exterior cable TV boxes to the electric service ground point.

While in cable TV, and service utility land, having these services enter the house close together shortens the ground wires, thus increasing the systems' protection. In Ham radio world this might contribute to further RFI problems.

## COOPERATION, NOT CONTENTION, THE BEST APPROACH AT 2390-2395 MHZ, ARRL SAYS

The ARRL has told the FCC that it can support Amateur Radio sharing of 2390 to 2395 MHz on a co-primary basis with flight test telemetry stations. The Amateur Service has 2390 to 2400 MHz on a primary basis. Earlier this year, in a Fourth Notice of Proposed Rule Making (NPRM) in ET Docket 00-258, the FCC proposed permitting federal government aeronautical mobile and non-government aeronautical flight test telemetry to operate in the first 5 megahertz of the band. In reply comments in the proceeding filed December 1, the League told the FCC that it's agreed in principle with the Aerospace and Flight Test Radio Coordinating Council (AFTRCC) <<http://www.aftfcc.org/>> to develop coordination procedures. "ARRL believes and continues to believe that this will result in a harmonious arrangement that will not significantly disrupt ongoing and developing amateur operations," the League's reply comments said. The allocation shift is part of the FCC's efforts to accommodate users displaced from other bands reallocated for Advanced Wireless Systems. AFTRCC initially had called on the FCC to preclude "any new amateur use" of the 2390 to 2395 MHz segment and grandfather any existing usage on a secondary basis. At the time it commented, however, AFTRCC was acting on the presumption that amateur use consisted only of ATV. The ARRL noted that amateurs also are developing wideband data systems for the spectrum. In its comments filed November 3, the ARRL expressed confidence that the co-primary allocations envisioned for 2390-2395 MHz will, in the end, prove compatible, provided the FCC affirms the need for cooperative frequency coordination. The ARRL reiterated that position in this week's reply comments. "The need for active frequency coordination is especially compelling with respect to non-government flight test telemetry," the League said. The ARRL asserted, however, that 2395 to 2400 MHz "must remain an exclusive amateur primary allocation.



## Kid's Day 2004

**Purpose:** Kid's Day is intended to encourage young people (licensed or not) to enjoy Amateur Radio. It can give young people hands-on on-the-air experience so they might develop an interest in pursuing a license in the future. It is intended to give hams a chance to share their station with their children.

**Dates:** January 4 and June 19, 2004.

**Time:** 1800 to 2400Z. No limit on operating time.

**Suggested exchange:** Name, age, location and favorite color. You are encouraged to work the same station again if an operator has changed. Call "CQ Kid's Day."

**Suggested Frequencies:** 28350 to 28400 kHz, 21380 to 21400, 14270 to 14300 kHz and 2-meter repeater frequencies with permission from your area repeater sponsor. Observe third party traffic restrictions when making DX QSOs.

**Reporting:** Logs and comments may be posted on the Internet. Those without Internet access may forward comments to the Boring Amateur Radio Club (address below).

**Awards:** All participants are eligible to receive a colorful certificate (it becomes the child's personalized sales brochure on ham radio). You can download this certificate for free, customized with the kids' names, after filling out our Kid's Day Survey, or send a 9 X 12 SASE to: Boring Amateur Radio Club, PO Box 1357; Boring, OR 97009.

## THE NEXT AMATEUR RADIO EXAM SESSION IS

9 AM SATURDAY  
DECEMBER 20, 2003.

North Suburban  
District Library  
6340 N 2nd St.  
Loves Park, IL

## HAM TRAINING: TRAIN THE TRAINER

49 youngsters are now licensed hams and are the newest members of Pennsylvania's Trinity High School Radio Club. This, thanks to a program called "Train the Trainer" by Pete Di Volpi, K3PD, a teacher named Sean Barnes, N3JQ and the Harrisburg Radio Amateurs Club V-E Team. The Trinity High School Radio Club operators station KB3JAG. Barnes started the radio club so lower classmen could get exposure to the hobby before they attend his physics class. He notes that the schools physics program and the principals of amateur radio tend to integrate very well. The Harrisburg Radio Amateurs Club is a Special Services club in central Pennsylvania. It has only 100 members, but has seen over 100 new licensees produced in the last two years from their V-E and Train the Trainer programs. Teachers that are interested in Sean Barnes curriculum can e-mail him to SeanBarnesPolo@aol.com



Check-in is from 9AM till 11AM. We require two signature ID's (one must be a photo ID).

If you are a licensed amateur radio operator bring your original current license and a copy.

If you are using a CSCE for an element credit bring the original and a copy.

Copiers available at site. (We need to see the originals & keep a photocopy of each document used for element credit.)

The test fee for 2003 is \$12.00.  
Walk-ins welcome.

## HAM OF THE YEAR - -2003 NOMINATIONS

The Ham of the Year award 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 2003.

We encourage you to take a few minutes to fill out the form below, or a facsimile, completing all of the requested information. Nominations may be mailed to N9SH at the address below or handed to her at the next club meeting. All nominations must be received by December 12, 2003. They will remain confidential. Your participation and early response will be appreciated.

Mail nominations to: Shari Harlan, N9SH  
5931 Alma Dr.  
Rockford, Il., 61108  
n9sh@hampubs.com



### NOMINATION FOR HAM OF THE YEAR

Nominee \_\_\_\_\_  
Call \_\_\_\_\_

I nominate the above person for the RARA Ham of the Year-2003 award for the following reasons:

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Signed \_\_\_\_\_  
Call \_\_\_\_\_

**2004 RARA Awards Dinner**

January 9, 2004

6:00 pm - Happy Hour 7:00 pm - Dinner

Forest Room

Thunderbay Bar and Grill

7652 Potawatomi Tr.

Rockford, IL

The Menu:

Grilled Vegetarian Platter	\$13.90
Garlic Chicken (1/2 chicken)	\$15.60
Mahi Mahi (fish)	\$18.00
Top Sirloin	\$18.00

All dinners include:

- Baked Potato
- House Vegetable
- Salad your choice of dressing includes:  
Ranch, French, and Thousand Island
- Non alcoholic drink (coffee, milk, soda)

Cash Bar will be available.

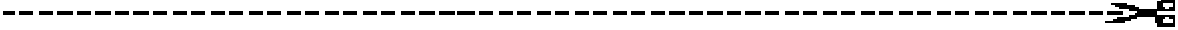
All prices include taxes and gratuities.

Reservations are do by December 31, 2003

Checks can be made payable to RARA

Mail your Reservations to:

Mary & John Auerswald  
2229 10<sup>th</sup> St.  
Rockford, Il 61104



<u>Item</u>		<u>Qty.</u>		<u>Sub Total</u>
Grilled Vegetarian Platter	\$13.90	_____	x	_____
Garlic Chicken (1/2 chicken)	\$15.60	_____	x	_____
Mahi Mahi (fish)	\$18.00	_____	x	_____
Top Sirloin	\$18.00	_____	x	_____
			<b>Total</b>	_____

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Total of Guests (including you) \_\_\_\_\_



**Rockford Amateur  
Radio Association, Inc.**

P.O. Box 8465, Rockford, IL 61126  
Phone: 815- 248-3102  
E-Mail: w9axd@arrl.net  
Web Site - <http://rara.tripod.com>



Mailing  
Address  
Goes Here

Renew your Dues before  
Dec. 31, 2003 and save before  
the new rates take effect.  
See details inside

**Nov- Dec 2003**



**Seasons Greetings**



ROCKFORD AMATEUR RADIO  
ASSOCIATION MEMBERSHIP  
APPLICATION

*New Student Fee \$10*

DUES REGULAR/INDIVIDUAL/FAMILY \$25  
SENIOR 62 OR ON DISABILITY INCOME \$10  
HAM RAG ONLY \$5

NAME \_\_\_\_\_ CALL SIGN \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_

CITY \_\_\_\_\_ STATE \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP \_\_\_\_\_

HOME PHONE \_\_\_\_\_

WORK PHONE \_\_\_\_\_

EMAIL \_\_\_\_\_

RENEWAL \_\_\_\_\_ NEW \_\_\_\_\_ RETIRED \_\_\_\_\_

RADIO INTEREST \_\_\_\_\_

OTHER INTERESTS \_\_\_\_\_

SUGGESTIONS \_\_\_\_\_

RETURN COMPLETED FORM TO:  
ROCKFORD AMATEUR RADIO ASSOCIATION  
P.O. BOX 8465  
ROCKFORD, ILLINOIS 61126

