

HAM RAG



Visit our website for more club and area ham information
In the Rockford area at <http://w9axd.org>

April 2007

President's Corner

Its starting to get warm, finally. I am very glad to finally get some weather To do some antenna changes and fix-ups. I did want to share with you all an idea I came up with out of sheer desperation. String trimmer line... Yup, that stuff is great for ham use. I have some of it in the air holding up a G5RV. It has been up for a year now. It's not stretched or failed. The bigger of the two trees is very tall, thin, and sways greatly in the wind, so the line has gotten a workout, especially when it was -10 and windy. The stuff is cheap and comes in every color of the rainbow. Note of caution -if you are starting any antenna project., use all of our safety procedures, watch out for power lines, and stay safe.

Storm season is coming soon. I hope you will consider taking Skywarn storm spotter classes, if you can. I just took the basic and advanced as a refresher. I still get a thing or two out of them. I will bet it will help you be a better spotter too! I would like to see some more home spotters also reporting in. Its' nice to have reports from all over the area to gauge the storms progress. I really appreciated the hail and flooding reports like we got Labor Day last year. I hope we can do even better at gathering data for the NWS and show the local officials what we can do for the community.

I found the cartoon below online and thought I would share it with you all!

73
Don KB9AYF



Inside this issue:

President log	1
VP Log	2
Secretary Log	3
2007 Club Board	
Amateur Radio Exam Notice	4
AB9KA Ham IQ Refresher	5
For Sale	6
Ham Rag Problems Repeater Notes	7
IQ Answers	8
Membership App.	9

• NEXT MEETING

•Friday

- April 13, 2007
- LOCATION
- St. Anthony Medical Center
- St. Anthony Room #1041
- 5666 E. State Street
- Rockford, IL

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

From the Desk of the Vice President.....

Well, I took the Generals test and passed. I can't wait to make my first contact .

I am looking for ideas for the tech portion of the meeting. If anyone has a topic or a guest speaker please contact me @ 847-890-9185 or on our repeater as I have my HT on all day.

I 'm sorry that I seem to be a VP in absence.

However, my grandson was diagnosis with a rare form of M.S. and we were at the hospital.

I fully intend to make this next one barring any seen or unseen cosmic event.

73's

Bob Neumann W9TZU

FRIDAY MORNING BREAKFAST

Meets every Friday morning from 8 am until about 9:30 am. An informal gathering of ham folks, no affiliations necessary, good food and good company. Everyone is welcome to attend.

*“Red Flame Family Restaurant” 915 S. Alpine Rd
Across from Alpine Park*

Secretary's Report

March 9, 2007

The meeting was called to order and the minutes were read. The treasurer's report was presented and motions were made and approved to accept the same. Treasurer's report was filed separately. There was mention that one of our expenses was for deposit slips.

Gene Harlan, KB9MMM, reported on the ISS contact. We have a tentative date for April, but it's still not cut in stone. KA9GEU wants to know how radios work on the inside and suggests that the club members present programs at the meetings. Sue Peterson, KC9GDT showed the club a circuit board she and her husband, KA9GEU, have been working on together, and suggested an afternoon schedule for club members to learn by doing similar projects.

There is a 10M net on Monday nights at 9:00 pm. Tune to 28.375 to participate and have fun.

Gene Stankiewicz, KA9BOD, reported on the class at the center for learning and retirement. Carl Cacciatore, W9TQ, who is currently in St. Anthony, is in serious condition at the time of this report. Further details will be made known when they are revealed. Members of the Chicago FM club were present to promote their Radio Expo and Pro Wrestling show at the Boone County Fairground September 29 and 30. Tickets are still available.

Motion to adjourn was made and approved and the meeting ended.

Charles T. Derwent
K9SAN, Secretary

RARA Officers and Board Positions 2007

Officers

Don Russell-KB9AYF-President
Bob Neumann-W9TZU-Vice President
Chuck Derwent-K9SAN-Secretary
Gene Harlan-WB9MMM-Treasurer

Board Members

Carl Cacciatore-W9TQ
Kurt Eversole-KE9NJ
Shari Harlan-N9SH
Dan Hunt-KC9ATR

Christi Russell-KC9HUE-Editor

AMATEUR RADIO EXAM NOTICE

March 9th there were 4 applicants resulting in 4 upgrades.

John Cotner KC9IED General

Herbert Crenshaw KB9QJE General

Gregory Kuczek KC9HMH General

Robert Larson KC9ICH General

March 17th there were 6 applicants resulting in 1 new Technician and
5 upgrades

Roger Terhune New Technician

Tyler Peterson KC9GNZ General

Robert Neumann W9TZU General

James Larson KC9GOA General

Gary Burgess KC9IJL General

Mark Mayfield N9NDI General

Northern Illinois Volunteer Examiners will be holding the next Amateur Radio exam session in Rockford, IL on Saturday, April 21, 2007.

Location:

St. Anthony Hospital

5666 E. State Street

Rockford, IL

For testing, bring 2 forms of ID, one must be a picture ID, any valid CSCE you are using for credit, and the test fee of \$14.00, in the form of a check or cash.

Contact Information

Randy Scott, W9HL

W9HL@arrl.net

815-877-4328

AB9KA HAM I-Q Refresher

Answers on Page 8

Technician

Which of the following is an example of a digital communications method?

- A. Single sideband voice
- B. Amateur television
- C. FM voice
- D. Packet radio

General

Why would it not be a good idea to use a wire-wound resistor in a resonant circuit?

- A. The resistor's tolerance value would not be adequate for such a circuit
- B. The resistor's inductance would detune the circuit
- C. The resistor would overheat
- D. The resistor's internal capacitance would detune the circuit

Extra

For single-sideband phone emissions, what would be the bandwidth of a good crystal lattice band-pass filter?

- A. 6 KHz at -6 dB
- B. 2.1 KHz at -6 dB
- C. 500 Hz at -6 dB
- D. 15 KHz at -6 dB

The following items are being offered for sale:

2.4 Ghz Parabolic BBQ Grill antenna. Wireless Internet? Originally purchased from Bob Myers and was never mounted. Price \$50.00

Radio Shack Digitraveler GPS (part #20-1601). This is a hockey puck GPS unit that will provide NMEA 0183 output. Includes a suction cup windshield mount. Perfect for use in a mobile APRS tracker. Requires 3 AAA batteries, or an external 5 volt power source. Price \$35.00

Diamond X-50 2m/70cm fiberglass vertical antenna. Originally purchased in an estate sale and never used. Some minor paint is flaking off at the very end of the antenna, but otherwise appears to be in good condition. Price \$60.00

Anttron 17 meter short whip mobile antennas (qty 2). Including a tower mounting bracket. All in new condition. This will make a 17 meter dipole antenna. Price \$45.00

2 Meter, 4 element beam antenna, 48 inch boom. Appears similar to KLM 2M4. Small enough for fox hunting, Like new. Price \$70.00

Kantronics KAM Plus TNC for 1200 baud VHF and HF digital modes, Firmware V8.0P Price \$100.00

Kenwood Phone Patch controller, PC-1A, Price \$20.00

If interested in any of these items contact Chuck Gooden, N9QBT at chuckg@insightbb.com or 815-332-3203

Ham Rag Download Problem/Solution

Having problems downloading Archived Ham Rag documents or access to the Monthly Ham Rag using a Dial-up connection?

It seems as if there may be a problem downloading Archive Ham Rag documents or the monthly Ham Rag link using a dial-up connection. The resolution to this issue is to use the right button on the mouse to select the document instead of the mouse button on left. By using the right mouse button, you will be downloading the archive document directly to your computer instead of through the web browser. For some reason, unknown by me, a complete file is not downloaded to the computer through the Internet Browser using a dial-up connection. Once the file is downloaded successfully, the PDF reader will be able to read the selected document.

That's it, a simple solution for an annoying problem.

Submitted by Paul - K9RNR, Webmaster

RARA Repeaters

146.610 -	ENC/DEC pl 114.8	W9AXD
147.000 +	ENC/DEC pl 114.8	W9AXD
<i>223.880 -</i>	<i>ENC/DEC pl 118.8</i>	<i>W9AXD</i>
ATV	input 1250 Mhz/ 434 Mhz	W9ATN
	output 421.25 Mhz	

Editors Note

If you would like to have something published , please email KC9HUE at chilly73@gmail.com

RARA Mission Statement

**A member association with common interest of public service to the community
through the use of amateur radio.**

Answers to I-Q Refresher

Technician

Which of the following is an example of a digital communications method?

- D. Packet radio

General

Why would it not be a good idea to use a wire-wound resistor in a resonant circuit?

- B. The resistor's inductance would detune the circuit

Extra

For single-sideband phone emissions, what would be the bandwidth of a good crystal lattice band-pass filter?

- B. 2.1 KHz at -6 dB

RARA BOARD MEETING MEETS ON THE LAST TUESDAY OF THE MONTH AT 7 PM

St. Anthony Medical Center 5666 E. State St. Rockford, IL

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



P.O. Box 8465, Rockford, IL 61126
Email: chilly73@gmail.com
Web: www.w9axd.org

Nets		
Thursday 8PM	Saturn	146.610 - 114.8
Monday 8PM	2 Meter	146.610 - 114.8
Thursday 7 PM	ARES	147.195 + 114.8

April 2007

place address label here

ROCKFORD AMATEUR RADIO ASSOCIATION MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

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

Single Senior: \$15.00 Senior w/Family: \$20

Student: \$15.00

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

Ham Rag Via U.S. Postal Service: \$12.00 extra

Name _____ Call Sign _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Home Phone _____

Work Phone _____

Email _____

Renewal _____ New _____ Retired _____

Radio Interests _____

Other Interests _____