

HAM RAG



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

January 2007

President's Corner

Wow, it's 2007 already. It's hard to believe how time flies. I have been in Rockford for almost a year now. I would like to introduce myself to you all and let you know a little about me. I work for Maverick Media on Sandy Hollow (WXRX/WNTA...etc). I am a Broadcast Engineer and do the computer IT/IS work. I have been a ham since birth. Almost

Everyone in my family is a ham. My Dad, Mom, Aunts/Uncles, Grandma/Grandpa... the works.

My Dad is a Broadcast engineer for several radio stations in Danville, IL (Hometown). I grew up helping him out as he is legally blind. Yes, the chief engineer of the radio station who works with high voltage and RF is blind, not completely but worse than 20-200. I have no idea how he does it, but its a real inspiration about overcoming adversity. I was one of those kids who tore stuff apart to see how it worked. For a while, they never got put back together, but I finally figured out how to fix stuff. Ever since then I've been the typical hammy type, fixing, modifying, and doing whatever I can to get more power, faster, better... You know the type.... I officially got my Novice in 1988, then the next month got my Technician(Later renamed Tech plus). I got my General in Jan of 05. Working on Extra now... I am into Digital modes, R/C Airplanes, APRS. Satellite/Balloon work,

and VHF/UHF/Microwave experimentation. I do enjoy SSTV and working DX when I can, but the home

QTH noise floor is over S9. So I get on HF rarely currently. I look forward to serving as your president and hope I do a good job. This is my first time so if you need anything, see me doing

something or don't agree. PLEASE speak up. I speak my opinion freely, and hope you will too. Open

dialog is the best way to get things solved. My phone and email is always open so feel free to

contact me anytime (cell 815-985-1545). Email kb9ayf@gmail.com. I have some what I feel are good

ideas and hope we can have some fun this year and get something constructive done in my time.

Happy new year and most of all have fun in the hobby!

73,

Don

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• NEXT MEETING

•Friday

- February 9, 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.....

Happy New Year and Thank You for electing me to this position.
I look forward to your suggestions on what you would like to see or know in
the presentation part of our meetings. Know anybody???
I want to make this a year to remember.
"73's"
Bob Neumann
W9TZU

The w9axd web site has a new name! W9AXD.org

The suffix ".com" usually indicates that the site information relates to a "for profit" company. The suffix ".org" indicates that the site is a non-profit organization or an association (like ARRL.ORG). If you have the W9AXD site saved as a favorite/bookmark, please update the entry. The W9AXD.COM web site will become history as of January 26, 2007. The new site: W9AXD.ORG is available, now.

Secretary's Report

At the time of this publication, no Secretary's Report was available.

RARA Mission Statement

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

AMATEUR RADIO EXAM NOTICE

December 16th there were no applicants.

Northern Illinois Volunteer Examiners will be holding the next Amateur Radio exam session in Rockford, IL on Saturday, January 20, 2007.

Because of the changes to the CW requirements and the possibility of a large number of Amateurs wanting to upgrade

PLEASE PRE-REGISTER by calling 815-877-4328

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

815-877-4328

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

AB9KA HAM I-Q Refresher

Answers on Page 9

Technician

When may you deliberately interfere with another station's communications?

- A. Only if the station is operating illegally
- B. Only if the station begins transmitting on a frequency you are using
- C. Never
- D. You may cause deliberate interference because it can't be helped during crowded band conditions

General

What is the main reason the 160-, 80-, and 40-meter amateur bands tend to be useful only for short-distance communications during day-light hours?

- A. Because of a lack of activity
- B. Because of auroral propagation
- C. Because of D-region absorption
- D. Because of magnetic flux

Extra

As the frequency of a signal is increased, how does its ground-wave propagation change?

- A. It increases
- B. It decreases
- C. It stays the same
- D. Radio waves don't propagate along the earth's surface

**RARA Officers and Board Positions
2007**

• Officers:

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

• Board Members

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

• Ham Rag Editor

- **Christi Russell** - KC9HUE

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



A Good Chuckle...

Washington D.C.-

It was announced today that Kellogg's and the Federal Communications Commission have signed a pact to issue Amateur Radio Licenses on specially marked boxes of Corn Flakes. In this unprecedented move the FCC believes this will not hurt amateur radio but allow all individuals to receive an amateur radio license without having to demonstrate any skills with the exception of being able to use a pair of scissors to cut out their operating permit from the breakfast cereal box.

Kellogg's spokesperson commented that they were proud to have been selected by the government to be the issuer of licenses for amateur radio in the US and hope to soon make an agreement with other cereal loving countries. They also expect that will be issuing certificates of achievement for DXCF for confirmed contacts with 100 corn flakers.

RARA 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	

Editors Note

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

RARA Banquet

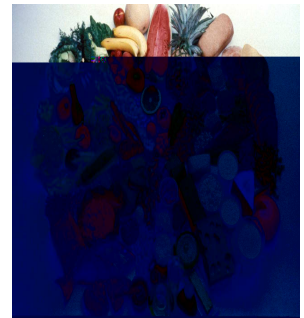
The RARA Banquet will be January 12, 2007. Cocktails at 6:00 P.M. with dinner at 7:00 P.M. This is a seven course meal which includes Relish tray, Soup, Garlic and Pizza Breads, Lino's Special Salad, Variety of Pasta (Mostacioli-Ravioli-Tortellini), Coffee, Spumoni.

Baked Lasagna (meatless)\$15.00
Baked Chicken ala Lino.....\$15.00
New York Strip steak.....\$23.00
Baked Cod.....\$17.00

All prices have been rounded up and include tax and tip. The prices do not include drinks, only coffee. There will be a cash bar.

To make reservations call Shari, N9SH, at 398-2683. If you worked a shift at Waterfront be sure to let me know when you call so you can get your discount. Otherwise just mail your check, made out to RARA to:

Shari Harlan
5931 Alma Dr.
Rockford, IL 61108



Answers to I-Q Refresher

Technician

C. Never

Reference CFR 97.101 (d)

General

C. Because of D-region absorption

Extra

B. It decreases

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.com

<u>Nets</u>		
Thursday 8PM	Saturn	146.610 - 114.8
Monday 8PM	2 Meter	146.610 - 114.8
Thursday 7 PM	ARES	147.195 + 114.8

January 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 _____