

HAM RAG



RARA Mission Statement

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

PRESIDENT'S CORNER

Check out the changes Bob, KC9ICH, has made to the website. You can watch the video for the Amateur Radio Week Proclamation presentation at Rockford City Council Meeting. Then, there is a bunch of pictures from Field Day-2008, and you can also listen to the WNTA broadcast with members of RARA discussing Amateur Radio with Mark Mayhew, with pictures too. And then there are pictures from Breakfast in the Park. There is enough information there that you will feel like you attended any or all of these events. Great job Bob and all the reporters and photographers! Our website is really a multi-media site now!

Breakfast in the Park

All contingencies were planned for..... except the Flood. The Breakfast had to be moved (almost at the last minute) to the Roland Olsen Forest Preserve. Our permit was withdrawn by the Rockford Park District due to the Rock River. I bet we take flooding into consideration next year. Attendance was probably down due to the change in day and venue, but attendance was better this year than in the past few years. That was due to Chuck's, AB9KA, great menu and sparkling personality. Whatever the reason, all those that attended had a good at time, good fellowship, and good food. Thanks Chuck!

Amateur Radio Week Declared

Gene, KA9BOD, worked with the Rockford Mayor's office to get the week of June 23, 2008, declared as Amateur Radio Week in the City of Rockford. As the declaration was in conjunction with Field Day, Kurt, KE9N, accepted the proclamation on behalf of all Amateur Radio Operators. Kurt's presentation to the Rockford City Council and Mayor Morrissey on Amateur Radio was received with a sustained round of applause. All of Amateur Radio thanks you for the fine job Gene and Kurt!

Field Day

Field Day was a success! Oh sure, it rained, but there was also a lot of sunshine. There were plenty of visitors, plenty of opportunities to operate, and plenty of antennas to put up and take down. I learned a lot about PSK31. If you are interested in trying out that mode, I would suggest the DM780 software. It doesn't do the dishes, but it gets pretty close. SSB and CW were there too, doing the fine job they always do. Gene, WB9MMM, was there and operated bicycle horn CW, he was Q5.

Coming up

Rich, K9PK, will present a very interesting program at our next meeting, Friday, July 11, 2008, *Radio's on the Titanic*. RARA is the second club to hear this presentation and from all reports, this is one of the presentations you don't want to miss. I'll see you Friday.

73 & Good DX,
Paul, K9RNR

July 2008

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Next Meeting:

Friday July 11, 2008

Location:

St Anthony Hospital
5666 E. State Street

Program:

Radios on the Titanic

Speaker:

Rich Ludwig, K9PK

Rockford Amateur Radio Assoc.

Latest news and events on our web page: <http://www.w9axd.org>

Our Program: Titanic

The Maggie

“ITS A CQD OM,” words sent by Jack Phillips, senior radio officer of the Titanic, to Harold Coffman on Carpathia on April 15th, 1912. What followed for the next two hours was history’s most famous QSO.

The two men’s receivers incorporated a Marconi Magnetic Detector, or “Maggie.” The Maggie was an ingenious device that detected audio from received RF signals, based on an invention of Ernst Rutherford in 1856.

A Maggie had a 70-strand soft iron band that moved slowly around two spools, driven by a wind-up mechanism similar to a music box. At one point midway between the spools it passed through a glass tube with a coil around it that was fed with the received RF signal. Before and after the coil were two horseshoe magnets that magnetized the band first in one direction, then in the other as it passed by. A second, smaller output coil was wound around the RF input coil and connected to the operator’s headphones.

As the iron band passed under the coils, it was reversing its magnetization because it was passing under opposite magnetic poles of the horseshoe magnets. This induced a small DC current in the output coil, the strength of which depended on the level of RF signal seen by the input coil. This is because the RF field through the input coil proportionately reduced the hysteresis of the iron band. The more RF, the smaller the output current. This enabled the operator to hear the modulation of the RF.

Friday, July 11th our presentation will be on the radios of the Titanic. Hear more about the Maggie and all the rest of the Titanic radio system, and interesting facts such as, what can a pocket comb and a five kilowatt transmitter have in common? (Answer: Ebonite)



COMING EVENTS

July 11--Rockford Amateur Radio Association meeting 7 P.M. St Anthony Hospital

July 13--Fox River Radio League Hamfest, Aurora Catholic High School, 1225 North Edgekawb Dr., Aurora, IL. Talk-in 147.210 + 600 PL 103.5

July 20--Kankakee ARS KARSFEST, Will Co. Fairgrounds, Wilmington/Peotone Roads, Peotone, IL. Talk-in 146.94 PL 107.2

July 26--Western Lake Co. ARS TechFest III-Revenge of the Rovers, Fox Lake Comm. Center, 23 South St., Fox Lake, IL. Talk-in 145.755 Simplex

Aug 3--Bolingbrook ARS Illinois State C invention, Bolingbrook High School, 365 Raider Way, Bolingbrook, IL. Talk-in 147.330 + 600 PL 107.2

Aug 9--Western Illinois ARC Hamfest, Eagles Alps, 3737 North 5th Street, Quincy, IL. Talk-in 147.030 PL 103.5

Aug 10--Rockford Amateur Radio Association Family Picnic, Alpine Park, Shelter #1

Aug 10--Hamfesters RC Hamfest, Will Co. Fairgrounds, Peotone/Wilmington Roads, Peotone, IL. Talk-in 146.52 Simplex

Rockford Amateur Radio Assoc.

Latest news and events on our web page: <http://www.w9axd.org>

RARA FAMILY PICNIC

Our picnic will be held Sunday, August 10th at Alpine Park, Shelter number 1, at one o'clock. The club will provide fried chicken and soft drinks. Please bring a dish to pass and your own table service.

After the picnic there will be a fox hunt.

Mike Oberg, AB9KA

D-STAR in Illinois & at Upcoming Events Including ARRL/TAPR DCC

There are a lot of exciting things happening with D-STAR this year in Illinois.

The Fox River Radio League(FRRL), <http://www.frrl.org>, 2m & 70cm D-STAR repeaters in the western suburbs of Chicago are on the air.

The Northshore Radio Club(NSRC), <http://www.ns9rc.org>, 70cm & 23cm D-STAR repeaters in the city of Chicago are on the air and the new antennas are working great.

The Chicago FM Club(CFMC), <http://www.chicagofmclub.org>, is planning to put 2m & 70cm D-STAR repeaters on the air this year in downtown Chicago.

DuPage County Emcomm Repeater Association, www.w9dpa.org is planning 2m, 70cm & 23cm D-STAR repeaters in Du Page county in the western suburbs of Chicago.

The Peoria Radio Club(PARC), <http://www.w9uvi.org/>, has secured a site for it's 2m, 70cm & 23cm D-STAR repeaters.

Champaign's 70cm D-STAR repeater is on the air. Twin City ARC(TCARC) has more information at: <http://www.w9seh.org/>

Other groups & areas are considering deploying D-STAR repeaters, including north & south of the Chicago area. The upcoming ARRL/TAPR Digital Communications Conference(DCC) is being held the last weekend in September in the Chicago area. The DCC is the premiere annual national digital voice & data communications event. There will be both technical & introductory presentations about digital voice & data communications. We last hosted the DCC in Chicago in 1998 so try not to miss it this year.

ARRL/TAPR DCC, September 26 - 28, Elk Grove Village Holiday Inn near O'Hare

<http://www.tapr.org/dcc.html>

FOR SALE:

Rohn tower sections;
55 foot Wilson crank up tower;
Wilson tri-band yagi plus 40m extensions;
Utility poles for antennas.

Call Ed Schott, KA9IMZ at 815-968-4060

WANTED:

HF rig

Call Chet Daringer, KC9MXQ at 815-601-4421

Rockford Amateur Radio Assoc.

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AMATEUR RADIO WEEK IN ROCKFORD

June 16, 2008

ROCKFORD MAYOR PROCLAIMS JUNE 22-28 AMATEUR RADIO WEEK

Through the efforts of Gene Stankiewicz, KA9BOD, of the Rockford Amateur Radio Association, the Mayor of Rockford, IL, Lawrence J. Morrissey, has proclaimed the week of June 22-28th Amateur Radio Week for the city of Rockford. The proclamation was read by Morrissey at the June 16th city council meeting. In attendance to receive the proclamation from the Mayor was Paul Franklin, K9RNR, President of the Rockford Amateur Radio Association, and Kurt Eversole, KE9N, Field Day chairman for RARA. After receiving the proclamation, Eversole gave a short explanation of how through various group efforts such as SKYWARN, RACES, ESDA, etc., local amateur radio operators aid the community in times of need. The proclamation from the mayor will be on display at RARA's field day site on June 28th and 29th at Aldeen Park in Rockford, IL.



Shown from left to right Mayor Morrissey, Kurt Eversole, KE9N, and Paul Franklin, K9RNR

Rockford Amateur Radio Assoc.

Latest news and events on our web page: <http://www.w9axd.org>

RARA

BREAKFAST IN THE PARK

JUNE 15, 2008



Photos by Dick Fleming, KC9BCB

2008 RARA OFFICERS and BOARD

President--Paul Franklin, K9RNR, 815-298-2251

Vice President--
Gene Harlan, WB9MMM, 815-398-2683

Secretary
Gene Stankiewicz, KA9BOD, 815-226-1806

Treasurer--Rich Ludwig, K9PK, 815-547-6435

Directors:
Robert Larson, KC9ICH, 815-226-1875
Chuck Derwent, K9SAN, 815-519-0848
Mike Oberg, AB9AY, 815-399-0961
Chuck Ingle, AB9KA, 815-623-3623

Repeater Chairman:
Herb Eckstein, K9AMJ, 815-399-6822
Ham Rag Editor:
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 WX9MCS

444.725 + pl 118.8 WX9MCS
Linked to FISHFAR

Rockford Amateur Radio Assoc.

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AMATEUR RADIO EXAM NOTICE

June 21st there were 5 applicants resulting in 3 new Technician and 2 upgrade

New Technician

Norman E. Heyen

David B. Stein

Name withheld

Upgrades

Charles S. Voyles, KB9SWF, General

William A. Null, KA9OWD, Extra

Northern Illinois Volunteer Examiners will be holding the next Amateur Radio exam session in Rockford, IL on Saturday, July 19, 2008.

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)

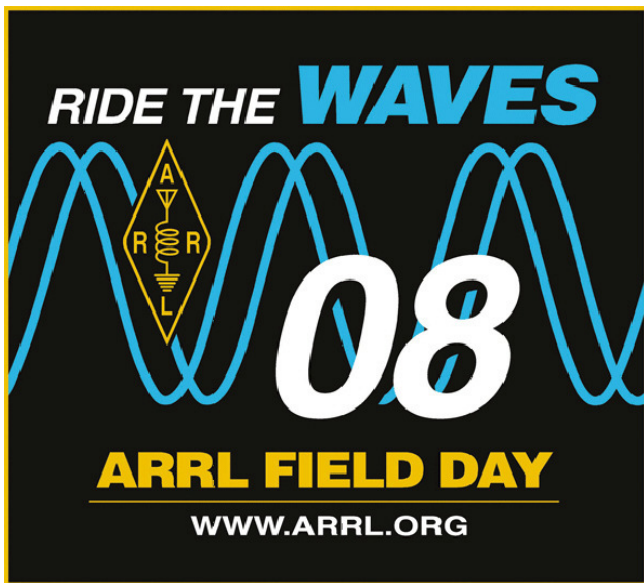
Contact Information

Randy Scott, W9HL W9HL@arrl.net

815-877-4328

Rockford Amateur Radio Assoc.

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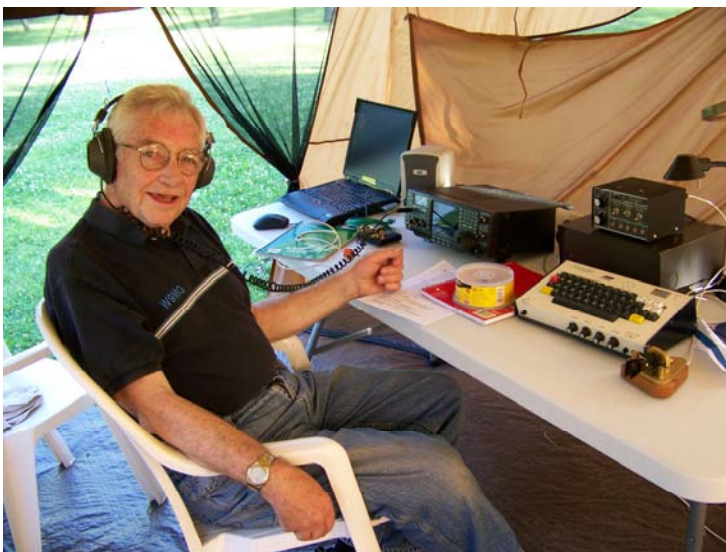


CQ FIELD DAY



Rockford Amateur Radio Assoc.

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Photos courtesy of Bob Davidson, WA9NTT and Gene Stankiewicz, KA9BOD



P.O. Box 8465, Rockford, IL 61126

Email shari@hampubs.com

Web: 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

July 2008

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 _____

_____ ARRL _____

Other Interests _____