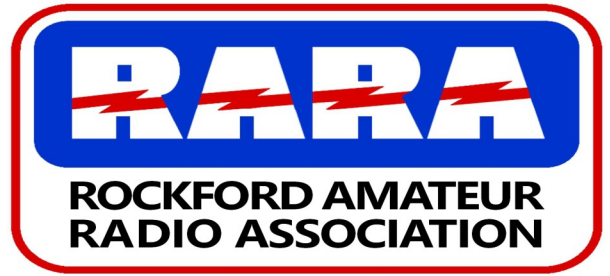


HAM RAG



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

RARA Mission Statement

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

President's Column

Dear Members,

Thanks to all who attended the November meeting. Kurt's (KE9N) program was very informative for those entering HF operating and those looking to pick up another radio. Our organization is steadily growing.

A special thanks to the VEC's for promoting membership among new licensees and up-graders.

Decembers meeting will be a "Show and Tell of your favorite Ham Shack device or accessory". I'm sure all of you have some device that helps you make all those QSO's. Bring it with to the meeting. Thanks to all who have volunteered their services as Officers and Directors during 2015. Merry Christmas to all.

73,
Robert - KC9ICH

December 2015

INSIDE THIS ISSUE

President's Column - page 1
Secretary's Report - page 2
RARA Events & Info.-page 3
Ham of the Year - page 4
January Celebration - page 5
Hamfest Information - page 6
Flashbacks - page 7-9
Exam Information - page 10
Membership Forms - page 11

NEXT MEETING

FRIDAY
December 11, 2015
7:00 pm

**"Favorite
Ham Shack
Accessories"**

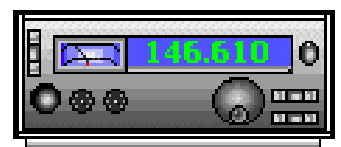
Bring your favorite Ham Shack accessory for show and tell

Location:
**OSF St. Anthony
Medical Center**
5666 East State Street
Rockford, IL 61108



ALL THE OTHER REINDEER USED TO LAUGH AND CALL HIM NAMES

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



Secretary's Report



RARA Club Meeting Minutes for November 13, 2015

The meeting was called to order at 7:05 p.m. with 21 attendees.

The treasurer's report for October 27, 2015 was read. (Gordon Seaman, KC9NEX made motion to accept the report, seconded by Dennis Johanson, K9VMY. The motion passed.

The October 9, 2015 club meeting minutes were read. Jim Holich, AB9SX made the motion to accept the minutes, seconded by Ron Callahan, N9SZV. All approved.

Old Business: none

New Business:

Kurt Eversole, KE9N – gave a summary of the IL QSO party held on Oct. 18th at Kurt's home. How it came about and how it was run as a good introduction to contesting. One person would operate & one would log the contacts on the computer. Total contacts were 520 and 100 multipliers for a total score of 52,000 points. Everyone had a good time.

Robert Larson, KC9ICH – called for vice-president, directors and Hamrag editor nominations. Larry Schubert, AC9GO accepted the nomination for director, Gordon Seaman, KC9NEX accepted the nomination for vice-president.

President: Robert Larson, KC9ICH

Vice-president: Gordon Seaman, KC9NEX

Secretary: Bruce Carlson, N9OHT

Treasurer: Shannon Larson KC9QBC

Directors: Dave Larsen, N9ZXL

Dennis Johanson, K9VMY

Scott Francis, KG9SF

Larry Schubert, AC9GO

Kurt Eversole, KE9N (continuing as Repeater Committee Chairman)

Robert Larson asked for a motion to approve all nominees for their positions as 2016 officers and directors – Jim Holich, AB9SX made motion, seconded by Dave Larsen, N9ZXL – motion carried and was passed by unanimous vote.

The 50/50 raffle was won and donated by John Olson, W9JGO (\$30.00).

The presentation was by Kurt Eversole, KE9N: "Buying Your First HF Radio"

The meeting adjourned at 8:55 p.m. (Gordon Seaman, KC9NEX made the motion, seconded by Jim Holich, AB9SX. All approved.

Submitted by Shannon Larson - KC9QBC

RARA Events and Information

UPCOMING RARA EVENTS

December 11, 2015 - General RARA Meeting 7:00 pm at OSF

December 29, 2015 - RARA Board Meeting 7:00 pm at OSF

January 8, 2016 - Celebration Meeting at Gerry's Pizza

January 26, 2016 - RARA Board Meeting 7:00 pm at OSF

From the Editor

I would like to thank everyone who has contributed to the content of this year's Hamrag for their articles, pictures, thoughts and ideas. Without their help, the Hamrag would not have been the publication that we all can be proud of, and offer a positive reflection of the Rockford Amateur Radio Association. I am grateful to those who have made my stay as the Hamrag editor enjoyable and rewarding. Starting in 2016 there will be a new Hamrag editor, and, as in the past, please pass on your contributions and support, which will benefit the ham population and make the Hamrag what it is.

Thank you,
Kurt Eversole - KE9N

FRIDAY MORNING BREAKFAST

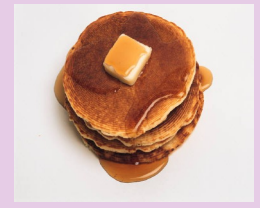
Meets every Friday morning from 8 am until about 9:30 am. An informal gathering of ham folks, no affiliations necessary, good food and good company.

Everyone is welcome to attend.

"The Morning Glory"

211 7th Street

Rockford, IL 61104



RARA Information Net

The purpose of the net is to disseminate RARA related information as well as other Amateur Radio related information. As a club sponsored activity, please check in with Net Control and help make this net a success. The Net Control is rotated between the club members, with all amateur radio operators encouraged to check in. (RARA members as well as non-members)

Let any of the officers and board know your thoughts and ideas. If you wish to be a net control operator, let any of the officers know. All are encouraged and welcome to participate.

146.610 (pl 114.8) repeater at 8:00 pm, every Monday, except on holidays.

HAM OF THE YEAR 2015

HAM OF THE YEAR---2015 NOMINATIONS

The Ham of the Year is an honor that is presented to the R.A.R.A. member(s) 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 2015. 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 e-mailed or mailed to Robert Larson, KC9ICH, at the address below or handed to me at the next club meeting. All nominations must be received by December 10, 2015. They will remain confidential.

Your participation and early response will be appreciated.

Email or mail nominations to:

Robert Larson, KC9ICH
3911 Shirley Road
Rockford, IL 61108-1950
kc9ich@arrrl.net

Nominee _____

Call _____

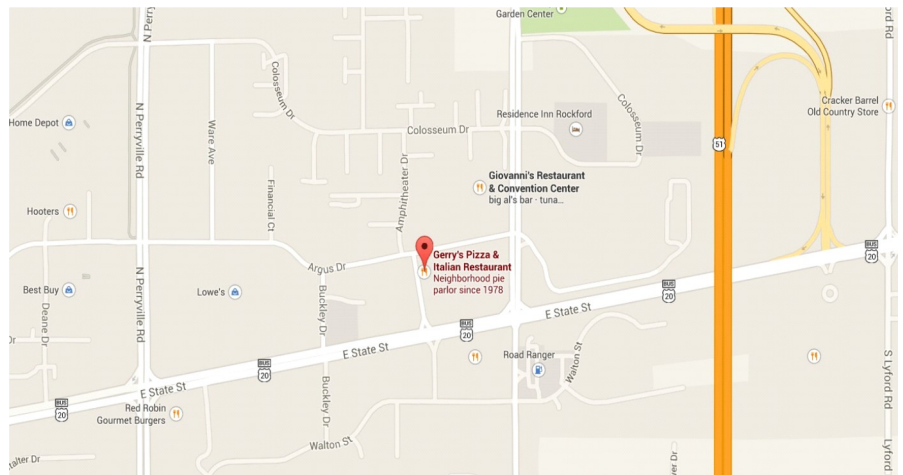
I nominate the above person for the RARA Ham of the Year-2010 award for the following reasons:

Signed _____ Call _____

CELEBRATION MEETING TO BE HELD JANUARY 8, 2016

We will be holding our **January meeting** at **Gerry's Pizza** to celebrate the new year. Bring your spouse, and get to know other members of the RARA family. The starting time is 5:00pm to 6:15pm for cocktails, with dinner starting around 6:30pm. You may order anything you would like, as you will be responsible for your own expenses to be paid by you. RARA will not be offsetting any expenses from funds in the treasury. Come and enjoy the fun! The "Ham of the Year" award will be presented as well.

Gerry's Pizza
7403 Argus Drive
Rockford, IL
(815) 399-2031



NEED A WINTER VACATION?

ARRL, the national association for Amateur Radio®, welcomes all members and friends to the 2016 ARRL National Convention in Orlando, Florida, February 12-14, 2016. The convention will mark the 70th anniversary of HamCation®—one of the largest annually-held gatherings of radio amateurs in the US.

Orlando HamCation® is sponsored by the Orlando Amateur Radio Club, an ARRL-affiliated radio club, and is supported by volunteers from radio clubs throughout the region. In past years, HamCation® has received regular sanctioning as the ARRL Southeastern Division Convention. In 2014, HamCation® was designated as one of six ARRL Regional Centennial Events—helping celebrate ARRL's centennial year.

HamCation® is held on the grounds of the Central Florida Fair and Expo Park in Orlando—an 87-acre, lakefront fairgrounds. The published gate figure for 2015 was +14,000 (all three days).

The convention features indoor vendor exhibits, an outdoor flea market, swap, tailgaters, and many food concession stands (something for everyone!). There is plenty of free parking. Onsite RV parking with hookups is available (reservations required). In 2015, the convention sponsored 28 forums covering topics in Amateur Radio technology, public service, and education. ARRL Volunteer Examiners® sponsor Amateur Radio license examination sessions on Saturday (morning and afternoon test sessions). A special event Amateur Radio station, call sign K1AA, will be setup and operating from the fairgrounds—inviting attendees for some on-air fun.





WCRA 49th ANNUAL MID-WINTER ELECTRONICS HOBBY EXPO (HAMFEST)



HAM RADIO, COMPUTERS AND ELECTRONICS FLEA MARKET

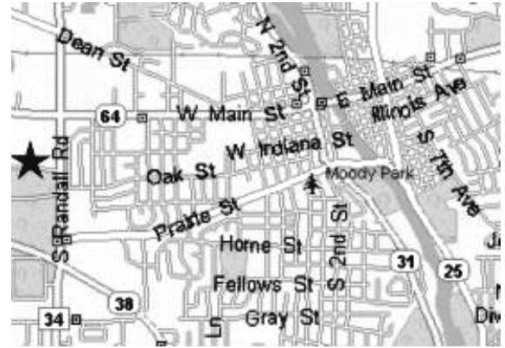
Sunday, January 17, 2016

Doors open at 8AM (closes at 1pm)

Kane County Fairgrounds Expo Center

525 S. Randall Rd., St Charles, IL

(coordinates: N 41.9056, W 88.34232)



FEATURING

Free Parking * Heated Indoor Facility * Paved Parking Lot * Hourly Prizes
Food * Amateur Radio Exams * Educational Forums

Tickets:

Advance, 4 raffle stubs \$8

At the door, 1 raffle stub \$ 10

- Children under 12 admitted at no charge
- Boy and Girl Scouts under 18 in their official scout uniform admitted at no charge

Exhibit Floor Rental:

\$30/table (\$35 after 1/1, if available)

(\$5 discount/table after 2 tables)

Electricity available for \$10/drop

1 chair per vendor provided

(\$2 for each additional chair)

Talk-In on WCRA's 2M Repeater 145.31/- (107.2 Hz)

and National Simplex Frequency 146.52 MHz

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info@w9ccu.org

www.w9ccu.org

Advance Ticket and Flea Market Table Order Form

Name _____ Call _____ Tickets @ \$8.00 = \$ _____

Address _____ Tables @ \$30.00 = \$ _____

Electricity (\$10.00) = \$ _____

Phone _____ E-mail _____ Total Amount Enclosed \$ _____

Please include an e-mail address so that we can confirm your order along with an SASE for delivery of tickets.

Mail to: WCRA, PO Box QSL, Wheaton, IL 60187-1055

QST

December 1956

50 Cents

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amateur radio



Season's Greetings
from
A. R. R. L.

PUBLISHED BY THE AMERICAN RADIO RELAY LEAGUE

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NEWARK

Values at Xmas

AND ALL THRU THE YEAR!

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RCA WV-97A. Senior Voltohmyst.
62F000. Shpg. wt., 10 lbs.....67.50

RCA WV-77A. Junior Voltohmyst.
62F010. Shpg. wt., 6 lbs.....47.50

Triplet 666-HH. Volt-ohm-milliammeter.
62F208. Shpg. wt., 3 lbs.....24.01

Triplet 630. Volt-ohm-milliammeter.
62F212. Shpg. wt., 4½ lbs.....38.71

Simpson 260. Set Tester (Roll Top).
62F303. Shpg. wt., 9 lbs.....45.96

Simpson 260. Set Tester (Open Face).
62F300. Shpg. wt., 5 lbs.....38.17

Millen 90651. Popular Grid Dip Meter.
97F208. Shpg. wt., 3½ lbs.....61.50

Hallicrafters S38C. All-wave Receiver.
98F005. Shpg. wt., 14 lbs.....59.95

Hallicrafters S40B. Communications Receiver. Covers 540 kc to 43 mc.
98F003. Shpg. wt., 33 lbs.....129.95

National SW-54. Superhet Communications Receiver. Covers 540 kc to 30 mc.
98F318. Shpg. wt., 10 lbs.....59.95

National NC-88. New Communications Receiver. Covers 540 kc to 40 mc.
98F312. Shpg. wt., 30 lbs.....129.95

Dorset. High Fidelity Portable 3-Spd Record Changer with Garrard RC-80.
73F605. Shpg. wt., 30 lbs.....129.50

Garrard RC-80. 3-Speed Record Changer.
73F510. Shpg. wt., 18 lbs.....45.08

Wilcox Gay 3A10. 2-Spd Tape Recorder.
75F003. Shpg. wt., 26 lbs.....119.97

Penron 9T3C. 2-Track, 2-Spd Recorder.
74F908. Shpg. wt., 27 lbs.....139.50

Eicor 230. Two-Speed Tape Recorder.
74F940. Shpg. wt., 30 lbs.....127.46

Espey 512C. FM-AM Tuner Chassis.
96F031. Shpg. wt., 16 lbs.....69.50

Brush Mike. Hi-Z. At Special Price.
54G350. Shpg. wt., 1½ lbs.....5.95

Wireless Mike. With built-in midget transmitter. Plays thru any radio within 50 feet. No wiring required.
27F576. Shpg. wt., 3 lbs.....6.50

Drake 905. Popular Soldering Gun.
33F056. Shpg. wt., 4 lbs.....11.02

Weller S-500. Heavy Duty Solder Gun.
33F128. Shpg. wt., 3¾ lbs.....9.75

P.E.T. 625L. "Zephyr" Electric Hand Saw.
33F521. Shpg. wt., 11½ lbs.....37.24

P.E.T. 77DK. Deluxe Electric Drill Kit.
33F503. Shpg. wt., 10 lbs.....19.20

Casco G-25. "Electromatic" Drill Kit.
33F530. Shpg. wt., 3½ lbs.....12.97

3-SPEED PORTABLE RECORD CHANGER

New deluxe unit with latest type 3-speed automatic changer, built-in amplifier and speaker. Plays ten 12", twelve 10" or twelve 7" records at 33½, 45 or 78 RPM. 3 tube high gain amplifier. 5" speaker with heavy Alnico V magnet. Turnover crystal cartridge with two needles for standard and microgroove records. Durable plywood case covered with leatherette. Brass plated hardware. 110-120 volts, 60 cycles, AC. Size 15x8¼x16½". 23 lbs. **47.50**

3-SPEED PORTABLE PHONOGRAPH

Quality record player with high-gain amplifier and speaker. Plays all 33½, 45 and 78 RPM records singly. Two tube amplifier for full rich tone. Single tone arm with high output crystal cartridge for both standard and microgroove records. Heavy duty 4" PM speaker. Simulated leather case with brass-plated hardware. Wt., 9 lbs. **22.50**

Transmitters and Receivers

Nationally famous brands of Transmitters and Communications Receivers—In stock—for immediate delivery.

97F300. Collins 75A2 Receiver. **NET.....420.00**

97F305. Collins 75A3 Receiver. **NET.....530.00**

97F301. Speaker for Collins Receiver. **NET.....20.00**

97F309. Collins 32V3 Transmitter. **NET.....775.00**

98F323. National HRO-60 Receiver. **NET.....533.50**

98F307. Speaker for HRO-60. **NET.....16.00**

98F300. National NC125 Receiver. **NET.....199.95**

98F301. Speaker for NC125. **NET.....11.00**

97F455. Johnson Viking II, kit. **NET.....279.50**

97F460. Johnson Viking II, wired. **NET.....337.00**

97F410. Hammarlund HO140X Receiver. **NET.....264.50**

97F404. Speaker for HO140X. **NET.....14.50**

98F001. Hallicrafters S76 Receiver. **NET.....199.95**

98F008. Hallicrafters SX71 Receiver. **NET.....249.95**

98F022. Hallicrafters HT-20 Transmitter. **NET.....449.50**

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earth and good will toward all mankind*



*Merry Christmas and
Happy New Year*

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... and 73 from

W. J. Hallegan W9AC Paul Hallegan Jr.



AMATEUR RADIO EXAM INFORMATION

The results are as follows with family names first:

Berman, Izabella R	Technician	Pass
Do, Viet Bach	Technician	Pass
Porkka, Thomas N	Technician	Pass
Shourov, Estiaque Haidar	Technician	Pass

All were from Beloit College. They braved the snow.

Many thanks to Jeff MacKeever AC9KX and Joseph Moore KA9LMK. We had enough to conduct the exams.

Amateur Radio exams are held the 3rd Saturday of every month in Rockford IL. The next session is 9 AM November 21, 2015. Walk-ins welcome. Check-in is from 9AM-10AM, no exams started after 10:30. We require two signature ID's and one photo. If you are a licensed Amateur Radio operator bring a copy of your FCC ULS page with your call sign. If you are using a CSCE for exam credit, bring the original and a copy (We need to see the originals & keep a photocopy of each). No copier on site. The test fee is \$14.00. Bring a non-programmable calculator.

Location:

OSF St Anthony Medical Center
5666 E State St (Bus US20)
Rockford IL

Exams are held in the St Francis Room (Main Entrance then turn right).

Jim Holich AB9SX
jholich@comcast.net

AREA Repeaters

146.610 -	ENC/DEC pl 114.8	W9AXD
147.000 +	ENC/DEC pl 114.8	W9AXD
146.805 -	ENC/DEC pl 114.8	K9AMJ
224.440 -	ENC/DEC pl 118.8	K9AMJ
147.255 +	ENC/DEC pl 114.8	WX9MCS
444.725 +	ENC/DEC pl 107.2	WX9MCS

Linked to FISHFAR

2016 RARA Officers and Board

Officers:

President - Robert Larson, KC9ICH, 815-540-0309

kc9ich@arrl.net

Vice President - Gordon Seaman, KC9NEX, 815-234-5034

gleasman@outlook.com

Secretary - Bruce Carlson, N9OHT, 815-218-1764

bruce.n9oht@gmail.com

Treasurer - Shannon Larson, KC9QBC, 815-298-7549

shannon1234@sbcglobal.net

Directors:

Repeater Chairman - Kurt Eversole, KE9N

815-389-2784 kurt.eversole@gmail.com

W9AXD License Trustee - Scott Francis, KG9SF,

815-874-7170 kg9sf@arrl.net

Dennis Johanson, K9VMY, 815-255-4603 k9vmy@arrl.net

Dave Larsen, N9ZXL, 815-914-6078 n9zxl@att.net

Larry Schubert, AC9GO, 815-624-7772 schubert1@charter.net



P.O. Box 8465, Rockford, IL 61126
Website: www.w9axd.org

Local Area Nets

Monday 8:00 PM RARA Info. 146.610 - 114.8
Friday Night Fun Net 8:00 PM 147.255 + 114.8
Illinois Traffic Net (daily) 6:00 PM 3.905 LSB

place address label here

December 2015

**ROCKFORD AMATEUR RADIO ASSOCIATION
MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION**

website: w9axd.org

Membership Type : New Renewal
Annual Fees: \$10 - Student (up to age 24)
 \$25 - Adult \$15 - Senior (age 62+)

Above rate includes the RARA monthly newsletter, Ham Rag, via email
Ham Rag via USPS: \$12 extra

Name _____
Call Sign : _____
Email Address : _____
Address : _____
Town : _____ State : _____ Zip : _____
Home Phone # _____ Work # _____
Cell # _____ Ext : _____
Radio Interests _____

May we make your phone and e-mail available for other RARA members only?
Yes No
Comments _____

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