

HAMRAG

Visit our website for more club and area ham information at <http://w9axd.org>, or join us on Facebook at this [LINK](#)



RARA Mission Statement

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

May 2017

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President's Message

Greetings all,

Here it is May already. I don't know where the time has gone, but it seems to be flying by this year. In a few weeks the annual pilgrimage to Dayton will take place, and this year's event will be special. The Hamvention's old home of Hara Arena is no more, and its new home will be in Xenia, Ohio at the Greene County Fairgrounds. This year's Hamvention will prove to be an exciting place to be with the new venue, building layouts, and flea market spaces and I'm sure many people will attend just to see these changes. I know that I'm looking forward to attending this year to see these changes first hand, and I hope the weather cooperates in not being too hot, and definitely not rainy. For those of you going, I look forward to seeing you there, and hope those who aren't going this year get a chance to attend in the future.

73, and have a great May!

Gordon Seaman KC9NEX
2017 RARA President



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NEXT MEETING

FRIDAY

May 12, 2017

7:00 pm

Presentation:

**“JT65 Digital
Mode
Presentation”**

**By: Jennifer Van Zieleghe
KD9FMJ**

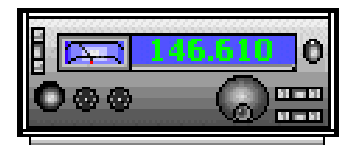
Location:

**St. Anthony
Medical Center**

**Foundation Room
5666 E. State Street**

\$\$\$ Membership Dues Are Due \$\$\$

It's time once again to renew your membership. See our treasurer, Jennifer, KD9FMJ, at the next meeting to renew your membership, or become a new member. You also may use the form on page 6, and mail in your completed form (with payment) to the address at the bottom of the form.



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

Secretary's Report

RARA MEMBERSHIP MEETING MINUTES 4-14-2017

The meeting was called to order at 7:02 PM. There were 19 people present.

Gordon Seaman, KC9NEX, introduced himself, and then there was a go around with introductions and each person's interests and activities in amateur radio.

Gordon Seaman, KC9NEX, asked whether everyone had read the March minutes. A motion was made by Larry Schubert, AC9GO, to accept the minutes. Seconded by Ron Callahan, N2RON. The motion passed by a voice vote.

The Treasurer's report was read by Jennifer Van Zieleghe, KD9FMJ. A motion to accept the report was made by Kurt Eversole, KE9N, seconded by Larry Schubert, AC9GO. The motion passed by voice vote.

Old Business:

It was reported that Jim Holich, AB9SX, inquired whether there was any interest in technician or general class license classes at the March meeting. He was going to post the request on the RARA Facebook page and see if there was any interest there.

New Business:

Gordon Seaman, KC9NEX, mentioned that the Unified Command Vehicle would be available for viewing at the south side of the Salvation Army Church (500 S. Rockford Avenue) on Saturday April 15, between 10 am and 2pm. Max Gersh, KD9DBF, mentioned the variety of radios that could be seen.

Information regarding the Stephenson County fox hunt on Saturday, April, 29, 2017 was provided.

Bruce Roe, K9MQG, mentioned that a lecture on "Background Noise" would be held at Fermilab on Wednesday, April, 19, 2017.

Kurt Eversole, KE9N, brought us up to date on the health of Shannon Larson, KC9QBC.

Kurt Eversole, KE9N, opened a discussion on Field Day. Items discussed included general interest, number of operating stations, the idea of using digital modes for the public, and public relations for the event. The call sign for the event will be K9K.

Jennifer Van Zieleghe, KD9FMJ, urged members to participate on Facebook and to contribute information to the page.

The fifty-fifty raffle was held, and Jimmy Curtis, KC9GOL, won \$17.00.

Presentations: Kurt Eversole, KE9N, presented a project on how to modify a UPS power supply and couple it to an external battery. A lively discussion on batteries and additional details followed.

Kurt also presented information on changes made to the RARA website. A discussion followed with Randy Long, AC9OF, volunteering to assist with other changes.

A motion to adjourn was made by Jennifer Van Zieleghe, KD9FMJ. Seconded by Max Gersh, KD9DBF. The meeting adjourned at 8:50PM.

Submitted by: John Mori, N8TA

Treasurer's Report

Financial Summary Report RARA 3/1/17 – 4/15/17

ORGINAZATION SAVINGS	
Starting Balance	\$4652.89
Deposit 3/22	261.00
Interest	.58
Total Savings	<u>\$4914.47</u>
FREE BUSINESS CHECKING	
Starting Balance	\$1110.33
Electronic Payment	
-Gordan Seaman 3/2	\$610.33
Check 700001	
-D. Johanson 3/13	\$245.00
Bill Pay Fee	\$7.95
Total Checking	<u>\$247.05</u>

AMATEUR RADIO EXAM NOTICE

In April there were (4) applicants. (3) of which were successful.

Congratulations to the following:

Taryon L. Cornwell	Technician	
Michael J. Duncan	General	New
Jon A. Miccola	Extra	KB9WYK

Thanks to John Goodman, Randy Long, Rusty Cordell, and Bob Mitchell for their time.

Amateur Radio exams are held the 3rd Saturday of every month in Rockford IL. Walk-ins are welcome. Check-ins are from 9am-10am, no exams are started after 10:30. We require two signature ID's and one photo. If you are a licensed Amateur Radio operator bring your current license and a copy. 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

UPCOMING RARA EVENTS

May 12th - General RARA Meeting 7:00 pm at OSF

May 23rd - RARA Board Meeting 7:00 at OSF

June 9th - General RARA Meeting 7:00 pm at OSF

June 20th - RARA Board Meeting 7:00 at OSF

June 24-25 - Field Day at Roscoe VFW

RARA Facebook Page

If your one of the many people that have a Facebook account, then check out the Rockford Amateur Radio Association Facebook page. See what's going on at this [LINK](#).



Local Area Nets

Monday 8:00 PM RARA Info. 146.610
“-” offset, pl 114.8

Friday Night Fun Net 8:00 PM 147.255
“+” offset, pl 114.8

Illinois Traffic Net (daily) 6:00 PM 3.905, LSB

Thursday Night 7:30 PM Digital Net
System Fusion 443.175 +, no digital tone
needed, group mode.

The May Issue of Digital QST is Now Available!

The May edition of *Digital QST* is now available for viewing on your desktop or laptop. Click [here](#) to open the issue. It is also available for reading on your Apple, Android, or Kindle Fire devices.

You must be a member of the ARRL to view this.

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 you 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.

Editors Note

If you would like to have something published , please call me or email me at kurt.eversole@gmail.com

Cut-off for the June 2017 Hamrag will be Wednesday, May 31, 2017

Kurt - KE9N, Editor

Hamfest Information

STARVED ROCK RADIO CLUB

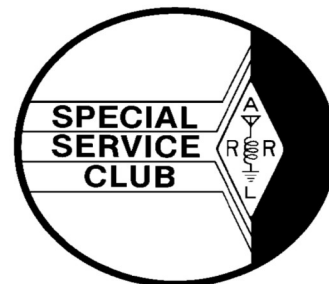
AMERICAN RADIO RELAY LEAGUE SANCTIONED HAMFEST 2017

HAM RADIO, RC MODELS, &
COMPUTER FLEA MARKET

AMATEUR RADIO HOBBYIST AND
COLLECTORS SHOW AT THE
BUREAU COUNTY FAIRGROUNDS
PRINCETON ILLINOIS

SUNDAY, JUNE 4TH 2017
8:00 AM TO 3:00 PM

ARRL VE TESTING 9:30 AM TO 11:00 AM
GO-KIT JUDGING AT 11:00 AM
GRAND PRIZE CASH DRAWING AT 2:00 PM



TICKETS \$7.00 ADVANCED (2 STUBS) OR \$8.00 AT GATE (1 STUB)

ALL ADVANCED ORDERS MUST BE RECEIVED BY MAY 31ST 2017
GRAND PRIZE WINNERS NEED NOT BE PRESENT TO WIN

- LARGE INDOOR EXHIBIT BUILDINGS
- INDOOR TABLES WITH FREE ELECTRICITY \$13.00 ADVANCED OR \$15.00 AFTER MAY 31ST
- OUTDOOR FLEA MARKET-TAILGATING AREA \$2.00 PER VEHICLE PAYABLE AT FRONT GATE
- ONSITE CAMPING-ELECTRICITY AVAILABLE-FEE BY FAIR BOARD
- HOURLY DOOR PRIZE DRAWINGS

FOR ADVANCED TICKET AND TABLE SALES OR GENERAL INQUIRIES:

Keenan Campbell, KB9ZDK Phone 815-252-6383

E-mail: hamfest@w9mks.org or see our internet site for the latest info www.w9mks.org/hamfest

- **New this year, all advanced table and ticket sales will be done using Eventbrite service: w9mks.org/hamfest**
- **Bring your receipt and pickup your tickets at the EAST Gate.**
- **No advanced tickets will be mailed! Advanced tickets will be available for pickup at the EAST Gate.**

Online Registration Link: WWW.W9MKS.ORG/HAMFEST

PRINCETON ZIP CODE 61356

DIRECTIONS I-80 To exit 56—Ill Rte. 26, South 2 miles to U.S. Rte. 6, West 1/2 mile.

GPS: N41-22.350, W089-568

TALK-IN By Red Covered Bridge Radio Club Repeater, 146.955 –103.5

BREAKFAST AND LUNCH ON-SITE BY CATERER



Princeton Tourism and Visitor Bureau

visitprinceton-il.com

2017 RARA Officers and Board

Officers:

President - Gordon Seaman, KC9NEX, 815-262-0294, kc9nex@gmail.com

Vice President - Kurt Eversole, KE9N, 815-389-2784, kurt.eversole@gmail.com

Secretary - Bruce Carlson, N9OHT, 815-218-1764, brucecarlson72@gmail.com

Treasurer - Jennifer Van Zieleghe, KD9FMJ, 815-222-4221, jenleek@usa.com

Directors:

Repeater Chairman - Gordon Seaman, KC9NEX, 815-262-0294, kc9nex@gmail.com

Jacek Gadja, KD9ELI, 773-505-5604, hyacinth27109@yahoo.com

John Goodwin, N9JHG, 815-520-3842, goodwin49@gmail.com

Larry Schubert, AC9GO, 815-624-7772, larry.schubert@gmail.com

Hamrag Editor - Kurt Eversole, KE9N, 815-389-2784, kurt.eversole@gmail.com

Webmaster - Randy Long, AC9OF, 815-978-6673, randy@rdlgraphics.com

Field Day 2017

CQ FIELD DAY CQ FIELD DAY CQ FIELD DAY

June 24th and 25th is our annual Field Day event, which is being held at the Roscoe VFW in Roscoe, IL. Come out and join the fun! We start setting up at 7:00 am on Saturday and start operating at 1:00 pm to 1:00 pm on Sunday. If you never operated before, this is an excellent time to learn. We will have a 20 meter SSB station set up for you to make contacts with, and learn about proper techniques. Everyone is invited, as with a control operator present, you can operate regardless of your license class. There will also be a 40/80 meter station. There will be a digital station, so if you want to learn about digital modes come and have some fun! We need help in setting up radios and antennas, operating and logging, and teardown, so if you have not already made plans let me know what you would like to do. My phone number is 815-389-2784, or you can e-mail me at : kurt.eversole@gmail.com

RARA has reserved a special event call of K9K for Field Day.

For directions to Field Day, check out the Field Day locator on the ARRL web page at:

<http://www.arrl.org/field-day-locator>

In the upper left corner of the Field Day Station Locator under the heading "Location or Call Sign" you can type in **K9K**, and the map will display the marker for our Field Day location. Clicking on the marker will display the address and you may zoom in on the map to see where it is located.

Many of us are planning to stay overnight, so bring a tent, or whatever you have, and enjoy camping and ham radio in the same weekend.

See you at Field Day 2017!

73,

Kurt Eversole - KE9N

Got Grids? June VHF Contest is Just Ahead

Summer is nearly here, and that means it's time for the ARRL June VHF contest, June 10-12! Participants in the US and Canada (and their possessions) work stations in as many different $2 \times 1^\circ$ [Maidenhead grid squares](#) as possible, using the bands above 50 MHz. Stations outside the US and Canada may only work stations in the US and Canada (and their possessions). Stations in KH0-9, KL7, KP1-KP5, CY9, and CY0 count as W/VE stations and may be worked by DX stations for contest credit.

The June VHF Contest occurs at the start of the summer sporadic E season, and intense openings on 6 meters and even 2 meters are possible. It's a whole new world of propagation possibilities that also include tropospheric ducting, aurora, and even meteor scatter and moonbounce. With many HF transceivers on the market equipped for 6 meters and sometimes for other VHF/UHF bands, getting on the air for this event is easier than ever.

For more information here is the link: <http://www.arrl.org/june-vhf>

RARA MEMBERSHIP FORM

If you would like to join the Rockford Amateur Radio Association, please fill out the form below and mail it (with the membership fee payment) to the address shown at the bottom of the form. If you would like to join at our next meeting (see 1st page for meeting details), fill out the form and bring the form with your payment to the meeting and see our treasurer, Jennifer Van Zieleghe, KD9FMJ. **Thank you for your support!**

ROCKFORD AMATEUR RADIO ASSOCIATION

MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

website: w9axd.org

Membership Type : New Renewal

Annual Fees: \$20 - Student (up to age 24)

\$35 - Adult \$25 - 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