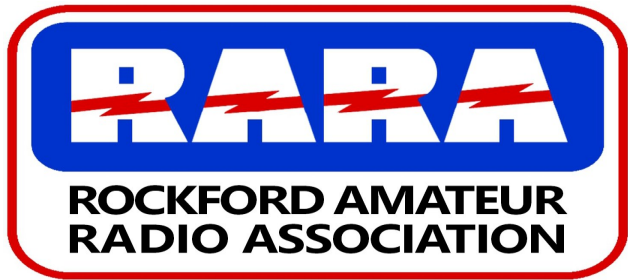


HAMRAG

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.

August 2020

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ARRL FIELD DAY
June 27-28

NEXT MEETING

**Friday
August 14
7:00 PM**

Live

On AIR

**146.610
Repeater**

Presidents Message

Hi All,

I hope that this August letter finds you healthy and virus free. On a brighter note did you read the article from Kerry KD9MAP in last month's Ham Rag on a \$24 receiver. SDR or Software Defined Radio is really something you may want to check out. Great job Kerry! I've got to know Kerry on the repeaters in recent weeks. He is a sharp guy.

Thanks to Shari Harlan and her post of RARA's Facebook page. Sad news. John Olson, W9JGO now W4JGO is now a silent key. Shari pointed out that John was active in RARA when he was here in Rockford and was voted Ham of the Year. John and I followed each other on Facebook and had texted back and forth on July 5th, shortly after he announced the passing of Steve Thorne K9LLI. He had told me that Steve was a very close friend of his. John had been fighting cancer for some time. Shari notes that that is three since Father's Day.

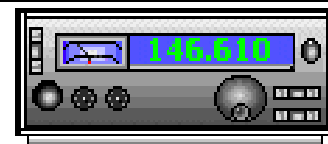
Bill KC9OJP and I have been running Health and Welfare Nets on Tuesday and Thursday nights at 7pm. Originally, we were doing the Tuesday night net on 146.610 and the Thursday night net on the 147.195. Because we were having problems on the 610 machine that was switched over to the 195, and that seems to be working the best for now. For the most part the 610 has been up and working lately, but it is not predictable. By the way, the 147.000 machine is not currently on the air. The controller was taken out for an update just before the hospital shut down, and we haven't been able to get back since.

Just put up a 33 ft fiberglass push up pole a couple of weeks ago, and I'm thinking about putting a fan dipole up on it. I brought the subject up on the Friday night Fun Net. We had a half dozen guys on there to help me. Wow this is a great hobby!

Don't forget. Friday night meeting on the air at 7 pm August 14, 2020. See you there. I'll start on the 610 machine and if I have any problems I'll go to the .195.

73 Larry AC9GO

p.s. The sun has started its new cycle. There are a couple of sunspots from the 25th cycle. HF is looking up!



Reporting the passing of Paul Plasters WA9FFL/K9PEP Silent key.
He was a past president of RARA and active in the early days of the Satern Net in Northern Illinois.
Just to let the members know.

73,
Mark Broman,
N9CNW

It's been a very weird Summer.

Many have just pulled back and hid out.

If you have any Stories on "How you Spent your Summer"
Please send them to jeffmetters@gmail.com

This way we might have some interesting stuff to read about in the future issues of the Ham Rag.

Otherwise:

Hear you on the radio tonight.

7pm
146.610

AMATEUR RADIO EXAM NOTICE

There will no longer be testing available in Rockford.

Contact Brandon for more information as to the Freeport IL testing times and location.

Brandon J McGrew bmacmagoo@hotmail.com There is also testing available in Janesville.
Contact wi9fry@gmail.com For mote info.

2020 RARA Officers and Board

Officers:

President - Larry Schubert, AC9GO, 815-624-7772, larry.schubert@gmail.com
Vice President - Dan Hallstrom, KB9LOJ, 815-229-7526, hallstrom@gmx.com
Secretary - Jennifer Van Zieleghe, KD9FMJ, 815-222-4221, jenvan1964@gmail.com
Treasurer - Gordon Seaman, KC9NEX, 815-262-0294, kc9nex@gmail.com
Repeater Chairman - Kurt Eversole, KE9N, 815-389-2784, kurt.eversole@gmail.com

Directors: Bill Callow, 815-298-1923, KC9OJP, bill5002@comcast.net
James Curtis, 779-537-2233, KC9GOL, jimhcurtis7818@yahoo.com
Jeffrey Metters, KD9MEC, 815-670-5506, jeffmetters@gmail.com
Mark Broman, 815-218-5514, N9CNW, markbroman@hotmail.com
Hamrag Editor - Jeffrey Metters, KD9MEC, 815-670-5506, jeffmetters@gmail.com
Webmaster - Skyler Whitenack, KD9PJC, skynojoke@gmail.com
Repeater License Trustee - Gordon Seaman, KC9NEX, 815-262-0294, kc9nex@gmail.com

Local Events and Information

UPCOMING EVENTS

August 14 2020 - On Live Radio 7pm - 146.610
Weekly Monday Night Net 7 pm
Weekly—Tuesday Night Net - Thursday Night Net (see info below)

RARA Repeater Information

Both repeaters (146.610 and 147.000 (both have a pl 114.8)) will function with both digital and analog radio signals, but the repeaters require time to determine whether the signal is digital or analog. To operate the repeater properly you must first be sure the frequency is clear, then key and hold the microphone button down for **1-2 seconds**. Then begin speaking. If you fail to do this, the first part of your message will be lost.

Area Nets

Monday Night 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 Jimmy, KC9GCR, (net control). **146.610 - offset (pl 114.8)** RARA repeater at 8:00 pm, every Monday, except on holidays.

Friday Night Fun Net - Every Friday night at 8:00 pm on the **146.610 - offset (pl 114.8)** RARA repeater with Jimmy, KC9GCR, as net control.

Tuesday Night Health Net—**146.610** hosted by Larry AC9GO, 7 pm

Thursday Night Health Net— **147.195** hosted by Bill KC9OJP, 7 pm

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 cover for meeting details), fill out the form and bring the form with your payment to the meeting and see our treasurer. **Thank you for your support!**



MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

website: w9axd.org

Membership Type: New (New memberships after July 1st are 1/2 price) Renewal

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

\$35 - Adult (25-61 years old) \$25 - Senior (Starts the year you will turn 62)

Above rate includes the
RARA monthly newsletter, HamRag (website download)
HamRag 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

All membership applications to become either a new member or to be reinstated as a member of RARA must be approved by the RARA board.

Approved: _____ Membership Year ____/____/____ to ____/____/____