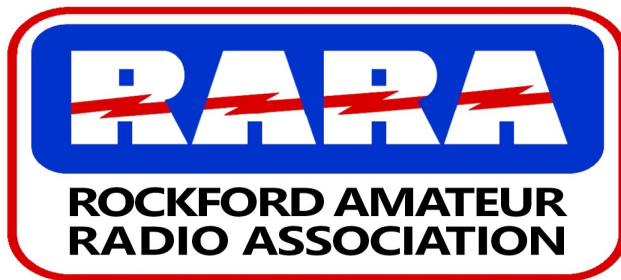


# HAMIRAG

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 2023

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## Presidents Message

Hello Everyone,

Our May 12th meeting at 7:00pm will be the first in person meeting at OSF St. Anthony Medical Center since the covid 19 pandemic started. We will continue our meetings at OSF thru the end of the year. Our meeting topic will be RARA information for the year 2023. Please attend the meeting and give us your thoughts and input.

We are looking for someone to take over being the webmaster for the RARA website. If you have some experience in web design and upkeep, please email me at [kurt.eversole@gmail.com](mailto:kurt.eversole@gmail.com).

We have had four hams join RARA in April. Rick Hassenfeldt, KD9QDP, Mike Richardson, KB9SSV, Joe Perry, K9JPP, and Jim Hall, AE9EE. Thank you very much for your support for our organization, and I hope we can provide a great resource for your ham radio hobby.

I hope to see everyone Friday night! Please let me know if you have any questions.

73, Kurt Eversole - KE9N

## NEXT MEETING

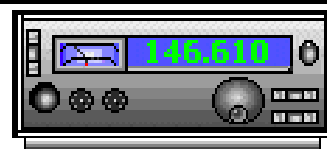
FRIDAY  
May 12, 2023  
7:00pm

“RARA Club Information”

### Location:

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

Foundation Room



## Local Events and Information

### UPCOMING EVENTS

**May 12, 2023 RARA Membership Meeting 7:00pm at OSF**

May 24, 2023 RARA Board Meeting at 7:00 on Google Meet

June 9, 2023 RARA Membership Meeting 7:00pm at OSF

June 21, 2023 RARA Board Meeting at 7:00pm on Google Meet

**June 24-25, 2023 Field Day**

### 2023 RARA Officers and Board

#### Officers:

President - Kurt Eversole, KE9N, 815-389-2784, [kurt.eversole@gmail.com](mailto:kurt.eversole@gmail.com)

Vice President - Tom Shouler, N9VJU, 815-633-0089, [n9vju@comcast.net](mailto:n9vju@comcast.net)

Secretary - Larry McFall, KD9HKX, 815-900-1820, [lpmcfall@charter.net](mailto:lpmcfall@charter.net)

Treasurer - Gordon Seaman, KC9NEX, 815-262-0294, [kc9nex@gmail.com](mailto:kc9nex@gmail.com)

#### Directors:

Kevin Puckett, N9EGF, 815-218-1551, [krpuckett@gmail.com](mailto:krpuckett@gmail.com)

Ron Callahan, N2RON, 608-289-0198, [ron.n2ron@gmail.com](mailto:ron.n2ron@gmail.com)

Larry Lisle, K9KZT, 815-397-9595, [l.lisle@usa.net](mailto:l.lisle@usa.net)

Repeater License Trustee - Gordon Seaman, KC9NEX, 815-262-0294, [kc9nex@gmail.com](mailto:kc9nex@gmail.com)

Hamrag Editor/Repeater Chairman - Kurt Eversole, KE9N, 815-389-2784, [kurt.eversole@gmail.com](mailto:kurt.eversole@gmail.com)

Webmaster - Position Open

## Local Net Information

**Mon** - 7:00pm - RARA Info. Net & CW Lesson, 146.610 (-) offset, pl 114.8  
8:00pm - McHenry Cnty. RACES Net, 146.835 (-) offset, pl 91.5

**Tues** - 7:00pm - Health & Tech Net & CW Lesson , 146.610 (-) offset, pl 114.8  
7:00pm - Rock County Public Service Net, 145.450 (-) offset, pl 123.0

**Wed** - 7:00pm - Stephenson Cnty. ARES Net, 147.390(+) offset, pl 114.8  
7:30pm - Greater Beloit Radio Net, 147.120 (+) offset, pl 123.0

**Thurs** - 7:00pm - Northern Illinois Skywarn Training Net, 147.195 (+) offset,  
pl 114.8, with the Health & Tech Net & CW Lesson following.

**Fri** - 8:00pm - Friday Night Fun Net, KC9GCR, 146.610 (-) offset, pl 114.8

**Sat** - 8:00pm - Saturday Ragchew Net, 146.610 (-) offset, pl 114.8  
9:00pm - Saturday Night Fun Net Milw., 146.910 (-) offset, pl 127.3

**Mon. thru Friday** - 8:00am to 9:00am - Senile Net, 14.287 (HF USB)

## On The Air Events

### 2023 Online Ham Bootcamp

The [Nashua Area Radio Society's](#) spring 2023 online Ham Bootcamp will be held on Saturday, May 13, from 10 AM to 6 PM Eastern Time. Access to the session will be provided via [Zoom](#).

Ham Bootcamp includes a series of demonstrations and tutorials designed to help newly licensed Technician-, General-, and Extra-class license holders get on the air. Ham Bootcamp is also a great opportunity for hams who are interested in seeing what the hobby has to offer.

The online Ham Bootcamp program is available to all licensed and prospective amateur radio operators. You can register for the next Ham Bootcamp session [here](#). For additional information, contact Anita Kemmerer, AB1QB, of the Nashua Area Radio Society at [ab1qb@arrl.net](mailto:ab1qb@arrl.net).

The Nashua Area Radio Society is an ARRL Affiliated Club.



### Upcoming State QSO Parties

Alberta	+ Canadian Prairies QSO Party	1700Z, May 13 to 0300Z, May 14, 2023
Manitoba	+ Canadian Prairies QSO Party	1700Z, May 13 to 0300Z, May 14, 2023
Saskatchewan	+ Canadian Prairies QSO Party	1700Z, May 13 to 0300Z, May 14, 2023
Arkansas	+ Arkansas QSO Party	1400Z, May 20 to 0200Z, May 21, 2023
<b>June</b>		
Kentucky	+ Kentucky QSO Party	1300Z, June 3 to 0100Z, Jun 4, 2023
West Virginia	+ West Virginia QSO Party	1600Z, Jun 17 to 0400Z, Jun 18, 2023

### Annual Armed Forces Day Crossband Test

The US Department of Defense (DoD) will host this year's Armed Forces Day (AFD) Crossband Test on May 13, 2023. This annual event is open to all licensed amateur radio operators and will not impact any public or private communications. For more than 50 years, military and amateur stations have taken part in this event.

The AFD Crossband Test is a unique opportunity to test two-way communications between military communicators and radio stations in the Amateur Radio Service (ARS), as authorized in 47 CFR 97.111. These tests provide opportunities and challenges for radio operators to demonstrate individual technical skills in a tightly controlled exercise scenario.

Military stations will transmit on selected frequencies and will announce the specific ARS frequencies monitored. All of the times are Zulu (Z), and all frequencies are Upper Side Band (USB) unless otherwise noted. The frequencies used for the test will not stray outside the confines of the exercise.

A complete list of frequencies, time periods, QSL cards, and other information can be found at [DoD MARS - Armed Forces Day](#).

## Rumblings from AC9GO

It is May Wow! That means that outdoor fun begins in ham radio. Things like hamfests, which bring on new items to play with. Maybe a revamp of that antenna that partially came down over the winter, or that antenna that you want to build, but haven't had the parts for, or maybe that circuit you've been wanting to put together, but just haven't had all the parts for. You can find all kinds of things at a hamfest. Things you never knew you wanted until you saw them, just sitting their waiting for a home.

Maybe you'll find a part that you need for the Do-ja-ma-floppy that fits on your Think-a-ma-jig that will make your Watch-a-ma-call-it work or work better. I know I've got a couple of those that I need. I know there are others as well, but I'm not sure I'm up to making up words for them this morning.

Getting back to our topic of the day which is May. It is a great time to get the things done that you couldn't do during the winter weather, and as mentioned get the parts for the things that you want to do. This weekend the Sandwich Ham fest was on, and I was looking forward to it. It is one of my favorites. I bought one of my favorite boat anchors there years ago. A Hammerlund HQ-180 receiver. It was a great receiver, almost broke my back carrying it to the car, and I don't ever remember using it on the air.

Now on the 21<sup>st</sup> of May we are going to have a get together at the YMCA camp, just north of Harlem Rd off of Hwy 2 to the west (left going from Rockford and right from Rockton). The event is free and will run from 8am to 11am. Tail gate shop and swap and ham radio get together.

Sunday, May 21, 2023 8:00-11:00 am Rain or shine

YMCA Camp Winnebago

5804 N. Main St.

North of Bauer Parkway On west side of Main St.

This event is not sponsored by any ham club; all are welcome. No admission; no food except what you bring; no vendors or VE testing. Just a bunch of hams getting together to swap stuff and socialize!!

Questions? Larry Lisle, K9KZT [l.lisle@usa.net](mailto:l.lisle@usa.net)

73,

Larry, AC9GO

## New FCC RF Exposure Limits

On May 3, 2021, [new FCC rules governing RF exposure](#) evaluations went into effect. While the exposure limits were not changed, the requirement to conduct an evaluation was made more broadly applicable to amateur licensees. A 2-year transition period was implemented to allow existing amateur licensees to conduct evaluations and make any changes necessary to ensure that their station complies with the exposure rules. On May 3, 2023, the transition period ended. All licensees must now conduct evaluations of their current station and reassess compliance when making changes to their stations that would affect exposure going forward.

As detailed in a [May 2023 QST article by Greg Lapin, N9GL](#), the rules now require amateur radio operators to perform station evaluations. The Amateur Radio Service is no longer categorically excluded from certain aspects of the RF exposure rules, and licensees can no longer avoid performing an exposure assessment simply because they are transmitting below a given power level.

The ARRL website features an [RF Exposure landing page](#) with resources, such as an RF exposure calculator, the entire RF Safety section from the 100th Edition of the ARRL The Handbook, a video explaining the topic, FAQs about the subject, and more. These tools and resources are available to the public without an ARRL membership or website account.

**HAM RADIO AND ELECTRONIC FLEA MARKET  
SIX METER CLUB OF CHICAGO  
CHICAGO SUBURBAN RADIO ASSOCIATION  
63<sup>rd</sup> ANNUAL  
HAMFEST**

**and Antique Radio Club of Illinois Swap Meet  
plus Midwest Classic Radio Net Hamboree!**

**Sunday, June 11, 2023**

**DuPage County Fairgrounds, Wheaton, Illinois**

2015 Manchester Road (North of Roosevelt Rd., Rte. 38), East of County Farm Rd.

GPS COORDINATES: N41.866667, W-88.132989

**GATES AND FLEA MARKET OPEN 7 A.M. BUILDINGS OPEN TO PUBLIC 8 A.M.**



- All Weather, Large Outdoor Flea Market AND More than 20,000 square feet of indoor selling space for those who prefer to be inside
  - AMSAT, ARRL, Skywarn and Dealer Displays
  - Good Food and Refreshments at Reasonable Prices
  - Free Parking - no extra charge for outdoor space
  - Donation Auction at 11 a.m. - Proceeds to ARCI (Radios, Test Eqpt., Parts Only - NO PCs)
  - Overnight RV Parking w/110V hookup - must Register in Advance!
  - 1<sup>st</sup> - \$300, 2<sup>nd</sup> - \$200, 3<sup>rd</sup> - \$100 and many other door prizes awarded at Noon
  - TICKETS: Advance \$8.00; At Gate \$10.00 - Use form below to order advance tickets.
  - TALKIN: K9ONA 146.52, K9ONA/R 146.37/97 (107.2)
  - **ALL TRAFFIC ENTER GATE S-7 EAST OF BUILDING**
- INFORMATION: E-Mail [hamfest\\_chairman@k9ona.com](mailto:hamfest_chairman@k9ona.com)



ARRL Card Checking will also be available

• • • •

VISIT OUR WEB SITES:

SIX METER CLUB OF CHICAGO: [www.k9ona.com](http://www.k9ona.com)  
CHICAGO SUBURBAN RADIO ASSOCIATION:  
[www.esraham.com](http://www.esraham.com)

ANTIQUE RADIO CLUB OF ILLINOIS:  
[www.antique-radios.org](http://www.antique-radios.org)  
MIDWEST CLASSIC RADIO NET: [www.mcrn3885.com](http://www.mcrn3885.com)

PLEASE NOTE: ABSOLUTELY NO ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES PERMITTED

NO SALE OF FOOD OR BEVERAGES IN FLEA MARKET - All Sellers Responsible for Cleanup of Their Spaces!

Return with check payable to "Six Meter Club of Chicago" and Self-Addressed, Stamped Envelope to:  
Six Meter Club of Chicago, 9116 Mobile Ave., Oak Lawn, IL 60453 no later than May 15, 2023.

Please send Tickets/Reservations as follows:

ADVANCE TICKETS (every attendee age 12 and over) # \_\_\_\_\_ @ \$8.00 ea. = \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
COMMERCIAL DEALER TABLES 8ft. (w/110V as available, first come first served) -  
First Table \$15.00 # \_\_\_\_\_ @ \$15.00 ea. = \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
Additional tables, \$12.00 each # \_\_\_\_\_ @ \$12.00 ea. = \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
OVERNIGHT RV PARKING FAIRGROUNDS FEE (includes 110V) # \_\_\_\_\_ @ \$45.00 ea. = \$ \_\_\_\_\_

PLEASE PRINT:

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ E-Mail: \_\_\_\_\_  
Address: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: ( ) \_\_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_\_  
City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP: \_\_\_\_\_

# Hamfest Information

## STARVED ROCK RADIO CLUB

AMERICAN RADIO RELAY LEAGUE SANCTIONED HAMFEST 2023

"Formerly PRINCETON HAMFEST"



HAM RADIO, RC MODELS,  
COMPUTER & ALL HOBBIES  
FLEA MARKET 6AM-1PM

AMATEUR RADIO HOBBYIST &  
COLLECTORS SHOW

**SUNDAY, JUNE 4<sup>th</sup> 2023**  
**Indoor 8:00am to 1:00pm**



**MENDOTA TRI-COUNTY FAIRGROUNDS** <NEW LOCATION

**503 1<sup>st</sup> Ave, Mendota, IL 61342**

ARRL VE TESTING 9:30am to 11:00am  
GO-KIT JUDGING (Score sheet at [w9mks.org](http://w9mks.org)) 11:00am  
GRAND PRIZE CASH DRAWING at 1:00pm

TICKETS \$8.00 ADVANCED (2 Stubs) or \$10.00 AT GATE (2 Stubs)  
ALL ADVANCED ORDERS MUST BE RECEIVED BY MAY 25<sup>th</sup> 2023  
GRAND PRIZE WINNERS NEED NOT BE PRESENT TO WIN.

- ✓ LARGE INDOOR EXHIBIT BUILDINGS - Indoor Setup: Sat 2pm to 8pm & Sun 6am to 8am
- ✓ TABLES \$10.00 ADVANCED OR AT THE GATE WITH FREE ELECTRICITY
- ✓ FREE OUTDOOR FLEA MARKET-TAILGATING AREA 6AM to 1PM
- ✓ ONSITE CAMPING-ELECTRICITY AVAILABLE - FEE BY FAIR BOARD
- ✓ HOURLY DOOR PRIZE DRAWINGS

FOR ADVANCED TICKET AND TABLE SALES OR GENERAL INQUIRIES: SEND A SASE TO  
SRRRC C/O Hamfest Chairman, PO Box 198, Leonore, IL 61332-0198

E-mail: [starvedrockhamfest@gmail.com](mailto:starvedrockhamfest@gmail.com) or see our internet site for latest info [www.w9mks.org](http://www.w9mks.org)

I39 to Exit 72 US Rte 34, West to 1<sup>st</sup> Ave, South(Left) to Fairgrounds on Left.

GPS: N41.545580deg W089.108484 ( N41deg 32.735min (44.08sec) W089deg 6.509Min (30.54sec))

TALK-IN by SRRRC Repeater W9MKS 147.120 +103.5PL Simplex 146.520

BREAKFAST and LUNCH ON-SITE BY CATERER

To keep Ticket prices down, DO NOT dispose of unwanted equipment on the fairgrounds.  
If it doesn't sell or you can't give it away- Take it Home!

MAIL WITH PAYMENT & SASE ENCLOSED TO:

SRRRC C/O Hamfest Chairman                      Make checks payable to SRRRC  
PO Box 198  
Leonore, IL 61332-0198

Name: _____	QTY	ITEM	EACH	EXTENDED
Address: _____	_____	Advance Tickets	\$ 8.00	\$ _____
City: _____ State: _____ ZIP: _____	_____	Indoor Tables	\$10.00	\$ _____
Phone: _____		Total		\$ _____

## The K7RA Solar Update

At 0134 UTC on April 27, The Australian Space Weather Forecasting Centre issued a geomagnetic disturbance warning:

"An equatorial coronal hole is currently elevating solar wind speeds. Combined with the anticipated impact from a recent CME on April 27, geomagnetic activity is expected to be at G0-G1 levels over April 27-28, with a slight chance of an isolated period of G2."

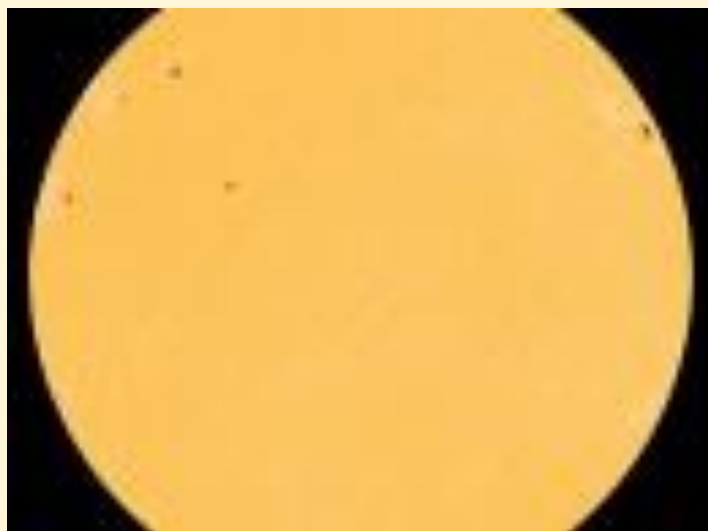
Solar and geomagnetic indicators moved in opposite directions this week. Average daily sunspot numbers over April 20-26 made a dramatic drop from 146.9 to 91.4, and average daily solar flux from 164.5 to 139.4.

Average daily planetary A index more than tripled from 8.1 to 26.9, while average middle latitude A index more than doubled from 7.3 to 15.6. Solar wind and explosions caused all this grief.

[Spaceweather.com](http://Spaceweather.com) reported that on April 21, a large magnetic filament on the Sun exploded, hurling debris toward Earth. Later they reported that on April 23 at 1737 UTC a CME hit Earth, sparking a severe G4-class geomagnetic storm. Aurora was visible as far south as southern New Mexico and Texas. The planetary K index went as high as 8 over April 23-24.

Predicted solar flux over the next month is 135 on April 28-30, 140 on May 1-2, 135 on May 3-4, 140 on May 5-6, then 145, 150, 155, 160 and 165 on May 7-11, 170 on May 12-13, then 165, 160, 155, 150, 145 and 140 on May 14-19, 135 on May 20-21, 130 and 125 on May 22-23, 120 on May 24-25, then 125, 130 and 135 on May 26-28, 140 on May 29 through June 2, then 145, 150, 155, 160, and 165 on June 3-7.

Predicted planetary A index is 25, 16 and 12 on April 28-30, 8 on May 1-5, 12 and 10 on May 6-7, 8 on May 8-9, then 5, 5 and 12 on May 10-12, 5 on May 13-15, 8 on May 16-17, 5 on May 18-22, then 15 and 18 on May 23-34, and 15 on May 25-27, then 12 and 10 on May 28-29, 8 on May 30-31, then 5, 5 and 12 on June 1-3, and 5 on June 4-6.



### Editors Note

If you would like to have something published, please call me, or email me at [kurt.eversole@gmail.com](mailto:kurt.eversole@gmail.com)

**Cut-off for the June 2023 Hamrag will be Sunday, May 28, 2023**

Kurt - KE9N, Editor

### FRIDAY MORNING BREAKFAST

Meets every Friday morning from 8:00 am until about 10:00 am. An informal gathering of ham folks, no affiliations necessary, good food and good company.

*Everyone is welcome to attend.*

***"The Spring Garden Family Restaurant"***  
4820 N. 2nd Street  
Loves Park, IL 61111





website: [w9axd.org](http://w9axd.org)  
email: [w9axdrara@gmail.com](mailto:w9axdrara@gmail.com)

# 2023 RARA Membership\* Form

## Dues are \$25.00

*(This is an editable PDF Form. Fill in the information with your keyboard, then save the PDF, and then attach it to an email to: [w9axdrara@gmail.com](mailto:w9axdrara@gmail.com). See below for mail in information and/or PayPal information)*

Date: \_\_\_\_\_ (mm/dd/yyyy)

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Callsign: \_\_\_\_\_

Street Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP: \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone - Home: \_\_\_\_\_ Cell: \_\_\_\_\_

Can we release your e-mail and phone number to members only? Yes \_\_\_\_\_ NO \_\_\_\_\_

Are you a member of the ARRL (American Radio Relay League)? Yes \_\_\_\_\_ NO \_\_\_\_\_

What things do you like to do with ham radio?

\_\_\_\_\_

What things do you want to do, but need more information to do so?

\_\_\_\_\_

Would you be available to make a presentation on some part of our hobby and what?

\_\_\_\_\_

Do you have any questions that we can help you with presently? If so, explain below.

\_\_\_\_\_

**Mail In:** Please fill out all the information on the form and mail it with \$25.00 to the following address:

Rockford Amateur Radio Association  
P.O. Box 8465  
Rockford, IL 61126

Make your check payable to: Rockford Amateur Radio Association.

**For Internet application and payment:**

To use PayPal, click on the link below. After clicking "Send" and then logging in, enter \$25.00 in the "Dollar Amount", and click "Send", to complete your payment to RARA. Also, **DON'T** forget to email your completed form to: [w9axdrara@gmail.com](mailto:w9axdrara@gmail.com) for your membership application. *Thank you for your support!*

PayPal Link:



\*Membership is based on approval of the RARA Board. The membership fee will be returned if you are not approved.