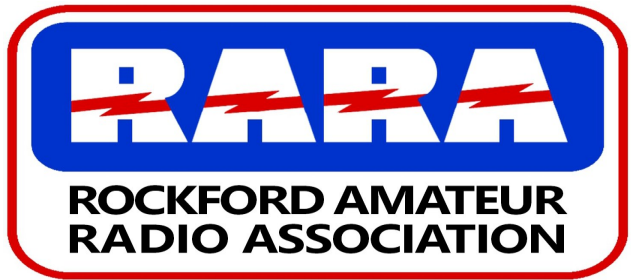


HAMRAG

Visit our website for more club and area ham information at <http://w9axd.org>, or join us on



RARA Mission Statement

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

Presidents Message

Spring is coming!! Time will fly and we won't even have time to sit until it's winter again. So lets get involved and have some fun with ham radio.

We have some new members for 2024, Raimondo Albarelli, KM0NDO, William Clapp, WD9WED, Bill Fritsche, K0SDZ, Bill Null, K9WAN, Jim Pandzik, KE9PK, and Verna Schubert, KD9YUM. We welcome you and encourage you to get involved and make new friends.

Thanks to all of the renewing members; getting signed up early helps with planning for the coming year. Finally, if you've been involved in RARA in the past but haven't yet renewed your membership, please do so, we miss you.

We had a great time last year with several events including social gatherings; Summer Field Day, Belvidere Ham Fest, Boy Scouts JOTA (Jamboree on the Air), Tail Gate Shop and Swap Get Together, as well as our regular meetings at St. Anthony's OSF. We have a lot to do and plan for this year; come on and get involved.

I know some of you are very good operators. We'd love for you to tell us how you get the rare contacts, as well as passing along other bits of wisdom to the group. See you at the meeting.

Tom, N9VJU

February 2024

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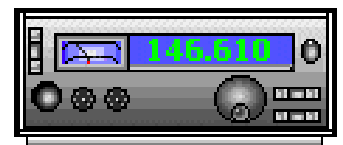
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NEXT MEETING

FRIDAY— February 9, 2024 - 7:00pm

SATERN

“Salvation Army Team Emergency Radio Network”

Presented by:

Scott DeSantis KB9VRW, SATERN Coordinator

PLEASE NOTE: Meeting Location

The Salvation Army EDS Building
5460 E State Street—Rockford

(Former Circuit City/PEP Boys Building)

Can't make it to the in-person meeting?

Scott has provided the opportunity for virtual attendance via ZOOM.

If interested, contact Verna at the email below.

Email: schubie2@charter.net

Local Events and Information

February 9, 2024 RARA Membership Meeting 7:00pm

Note location change for this meeting.

February 28, 2024 RARA Board Meeting 7:00pm on Google Meet

2024 RARA Officers and Board

Officers:

President - Tom Shouler, N9VJU, 815-633-0089, n9vju@comcast.net

Vice President - Larry McFall, KD9HKX, 815-900-1820, lpmcfall@charter.net

Secretary - Larry McFall, KD9HKX, 815-900-1820, lpmcfall@charter.net

Treasurer – Verna Schubert, KD9YUM, 815-505-8170, schubie2@charter.net

Directors:

Antonio Felix, KD9YUK, 815-566-5705, toniofelix@hotmail.com

Larry Lisle, K9KZT, 815-397-9595, l.lisle@usa.net

Matt Marshall, W3MBX, 815-222-5959, matthew.marshall@gmail.com

Kevin Puckett, N9EGF, 815-218-1551, krpuckett@gmail.com

Hamrag Editor - Verna Schubert, KD9YUM, 815-505-8170, schubie2@charter.net

Webmaster - Open

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

Repeater Chairman - Kurt Eversole, KE9N, 815-389-2784, kurt.eversole@gmail.com

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

Thu - 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)

Local Events and Information

Editors Note

If you would like to have something published, please call me, or email me at schubie2@charter.net

Articles are welcome from all hams.

Share your special interest, whether building antennas, contesting, DX, Digital modes, Solar activity, etc.

Currently seeking regular contributors for a "Back to Basics" column and to keep us updated on upcoming DXpeditions.

We want to hear from you!

Cut-off for the March 2024 Hamrag will be Monday, February 26, 2024

73, Verna—KD9YUM, Editor

For Sale by RARA

Programmed Baofeng UV-5RTP Radios

\$30 each—pick up at Club Meeting

Contact Larry McFall, KD9HKX—815-900-1820—lpmcfall@charter.net

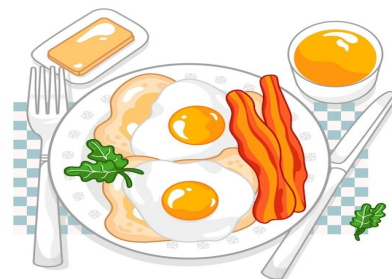
Pickup at the Club meeting.

FRIDAY MORNING BREAKFAST

Meets every Friday morning from 7:30 am until about 9:00 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



Feature Article

RARA RAMBLINGS By Larry Lisle, K9KZT

RARA was founded shortly after WW2. Among the early members were W9AXD, W9GKI, W9ERU, W9KDK. The club met on Friday nights at the Red Cross Building in the 700 block of North Main St. In Rockford. The building was equipped with a complete ham station and a tower on the south side of the building.

The club net met at 9:00 PM on Monday nights on 28.7 MHz AM in the 10 meter band. 10 meters was the first band released for Amateur Radio use after the war and was a popular around town band in the forties and fifties. Interference from skip was sometimes a problem.

Winnebago, IL was a hotbed of ham activities and claimed the highest number of hams per population in the country. A beam was almost a necessity to get a signal from central Rockford to Winnebago in those days with the typical transmitter power of 60 Watts input.

The usual mobile antenna was an eight foot whip mounted on the rear bumper. Home antennas were usually a horizontal dipole or a beam, with the ground plane becoming popular in the 1950's.

It's hard to imagine now, but getting on 10 meters with a homemade transmitter was difficult in those days. It took an oscillator, doubler, another doubler and a final that required neutralization. The oscillator was often crystal controlled because the drift of tunable oscillators was multiplied four times. Receivers were also a problem, even manufactured ones, because of drift and poor signal to noise ratios. Many hams built separate converters to bring the signals down to 40 meters, even though their main receiver would tune 10. The most popular output transmitting tube in the forties and early fifties was the 807. (Like a 6L6 with a thyroid condition). Unfortunately it was prone to parasitic oscillations in the VHF region which caused TVI or television interference.

TVI was a huge problem and almost caused the end of ham radio. The problem was the result of weak TV signals outside the big cities, poor receiver design (for instance the IF on some receivers was in the middle of the 15 meter band with no shielding! In addition, the typical ham transmitter before 1950 was built on a wood chassis. TVI changed that and caused rigs to be built inside metal enclosures with every lead except that for the antenna carefully filtered and bypassed to ground with capacitors. Coaxial cable replaced open wire feeders, and some hams discovered that surplus WW2 coax wasn't very good!

Moving into the late fifties, the 6146 became the output tube of choice for most hams Commercial transmitters with band-switching and TVI shielding gradually replaced homebrew rigs. Receivers became better also.

Feature Article

The popular around town band in Rockford switched to 6 meters AM to avoid the skip problems on 10. The most popular mobile antenna was the Halo to give horizontal polarization as horizontal beams were the norm at home. A popular rig was the Gonset transceiver, which had a transmitter, receiver and power supplies for home or mobile use in one box. It was really all you needed, with a beam. An important local development was a red hot receiver converter for 6 meters made by W9KBP, Franklin Nelson. He sold these at cost as kits or completed units and were as good or better than anything you could buy. He helped really get 6 meters going in the local area.

The sixties saw the shift to foreign made ham equipment, sideband on the high frequency bands and to 2 meters FM and repeaters, but that's another story.

Larry, K9KZT.

60's Memories of RARA—Jay Hogfeldt, N9GBI

Below is a email message received by the Club. Some of you old-timers may remember Jay and/or his dad.

I overheard on the FM38 system (Plymouth, WI) that W9AXD.org had a good list of repeaters so I looked it up. Ha, to my surprise it was the RARA site.

I credit RARA for getting me involved in this crazy hobby as a 13 year old back in 1964 . My dad and I went to a novice license class held by RARA back then. It was held upstairs in a decrepit office building. I got licensed WN9PXO. My dad dropped out because of the code. Claude Middleton W9VZ ran it and eventually became an Elmer for me. Passed my General exam at 14 WA9PXO. I was secretary of the board when I was 17. I remember the old clubhouse was out in Winnebago in another decrepit building. Life, family, and owning a business www.windmillsatwall.com got in the way for many years. Back into it in retirement. Enjoying FT-8 and a little phone with a FT-DX10 and a HWEF wire. Worked several JA station on 10m while composing this. Working on CW skills to get back into that.

Anyways, glad to see that RARA is still alive and strong.

73

Jay Hogfeldt, N9GBI

jay@jayhogy.com

Feature Articles

SIMPLE SOLUTION TO A COMMON PROBLEM by Dave Gauger, W9CJS

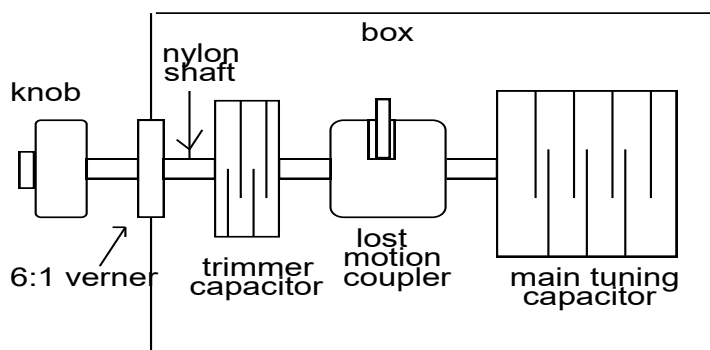
Most of us have toyed with or read about MagLoops and find a criticism common to all. *"They're so darn sharp that it's difficult to tune them to resonance"* This is partially true but there are a number of solutions. Here's one.

Some like Kurt Eversole KE9N are smart enough to incorporate a stepper motor driven by SWR control, making the tuning fast, accurate and hands-off. Another solution is to place a small, variable trimmer capacitor across the main capacitor. I'd have done this but didn't have space in the tuner box where I needed it. So, I modified this same solution, and surprise! it works just fine. I placed the trimmer and tuning capacitors in-line. The question is then, how does one tune each capacitor independently?

At the Belvidere Hamfest, \$2 yielded a small butterfly capacitor with a 1/4" shaft in and out the back. This was perfect for a trimmer capacitor. Space constraints would allow only an in-line arrangement, but how to control it? It came to me early one morning when I was still in bed and unable to go back to sleep. Use an (LMC) LOST MOTION COUPLER.

I'd heard the term but never really understood the myriad variations of such a coupler but soon I came up with a configuration of my own that was easy for me to understand.

My solution was to place the components as shown below, all inline with one tuning knob and using a lost motion coupler. This sketch should illustrate the entire mechanical arrangement from tuning knob to main tuning capacitor. A lost motion coupler allows independent control of both capacitors.

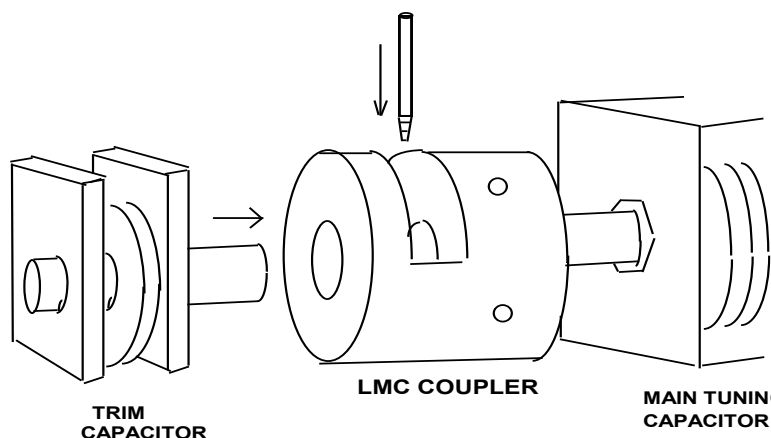


Dave Larsen N9ZXL made the coupler for me from a 3/4" diameter piece of round brass stock about 3/4 inch long. He drilled a 1/4" hole down the center and milled a cross-wise (transverse) notch half way down to the drilled hole. After that, a few drilled holes for set screws finished the job.

Feature Articles

The idea is simple. the sketch below explains the LMC. The knob always turns the trimmer capacitor which CAN in turn drive the main tuning capacitor BUT ONLY when the screw protruding up through the notch rotates to either end of the notch.

In use, simply tune with the knob until you see an instantaneous dip in SWR or hear the back ground noise rapidly peak and then disappear. Stop and reverse the knob rotation which will now be vernier since only the trimmer capacitor turns. This arrangement allows one to enjoy a much easier adjustment for tuning to resonance.



Even though I benefited from Dave Larsen's skill in machining, I believe one could make such an LMC with a drill press, a hack saw, and a 6/32 tap set. Many of us have such tools on our work bench.

Who ever said that Hams no longer build, "stuff"?

Dave Gauger W9CJS

Feature Articles

Logging Software by Larry Schubert, AC9GO

Logging software can probably be put into three different categories. The first is software that generally takes care of the basic requirements of logging. It is often free, and easy to download from the internet. It can be compared to the old fashioned way of logging (with pen and paper) but with one step into the computer world. Basically, it keeps a record for you much like you would keep if you were logging by hand but with the benefit of having a log in storage to readily check for repeat contacts. In fact, a lot of these logging programs automatically check for dupes. Of you don't use your radio much and aren't into contesting, they will probably work just great.

The next type of log would probably just kick this up a notch and keep track of your QSL's and maybe even pull up some information on your contacts for you. The program could still be in the free category, but you might need to pay for the privilege of logging into a third party program to verify call signs, upload contest logs, and to send out QSL's as an example. Since the program itself is still free, I put this in the first category.

Then there are programs that are more interactive with the internet, and have different programs for the different contests. They are interactive to the point they, not only keep track of your contacts but also, keep track of your points, the states, Canadian Providences and the split states like Eastern NY or Western NY. They may even keep track of digital or CW contacts. A program like this may maintain separate logs for each band so a contact on more than one band counts more than one time. A good example of a program in this category is N3FJP. The N3FJP logging software program has everyday software, as well as, contest logs including like Field Day, State QSO contests, and a host of other contests. The regular log covers keeping track of Work All States, and counties as well as several other award programs. It is not free, but is fairly low cost.

The last category is for those used, not only for general and contest logging, but include a series of interactive programs for ham radio. There are only two that I found that fit into that category. N1MM is a software suite is actually a free program that fits into this division. I've personally used this program for some time now. It has a couple of things that I like. It has a small gray line map, and it also has the ability to talk to my IC-7300 and put the waterfall on the screen. I have it set up with the logging on one monitor and the waterfall on a second monitor. It gives me the ability to click on a station on the waterfall and change to frequency of the transceiver. The next thing I like it to do is send QSL's to the contacts I've made. There are several services for this, and I really don't know the best way to work with them. I do know the mail is getting a little expensive.

I've possibly saved the best for the last, and that is Ham Radio Deluxe. This program has been around for a while, and seems to have matured in several ways.

Feature Articles

When a poll was taken recently on our Facebook page Ham Radio Deluxe (HRD) seemed to be the number one choice for area hams. It is the most expensive and seems to offer the most features, although I did find one ham that had given up using the program because he said he had trouble getting it to work right. In my looking at the program, I discovered that the company had been sold in recent years, and that the current owner was in the process of working on a number of problems. With the addition of several software engineers, they have solved a number of challenges, and added several features.

I have to admit there is a lot of draw to a program that has so much attached to it. The logging almost seems to take a back seat, to a program that sends out QSL's by several different ways including making labels for those that require mail. The program also includes FT8 , CW, and if I remember right RTTY. This program seems to do about everything but make you lunch. Logging seems to be just a small part of it. Other things include rig control, digital modes, satellite tracking including moving the antenna and the frequency to compensate for Doppler shift. It also automatically moves your beam for hf dx contacts. As I understand the cost structure, there is one cost for the program key for about \$100 which covers the first year, and any updates to the program in that year. And by update they apparently mean new programs. After that year you can get updates for around \$50 , which includes upgrade and renewal plus a year of new features and support. However, if you aren't interested in new additions to the program, you can download the latest version without new programs for free. The company also has a free trial for the latest full version.

All in all if you are interested in getting a new log program, you might sit down and take a look at what you really would like in a program. If it is just logging you can find several programs; possibly even some for your smart phone. Most are free or inexpensive. When you get into programs that draw from the internet they become more complicated and from there the cost goes up. I have only scratched the surface here, and you may find other programs that I haven't even heard of. If you run into something that is really great let us know and in the meantime, you may want to check out the links below.

I'll see you on down the log.

73

AC9GO Larry Larry.schubert@gmail.com

<https://n3fjp.com/>

<https://n1mmwp.hamdocs.com/>

<https://www.hamradiodeluxe.com/>

Basic Resources

NATO PHONETIC ALPHABET

A - Alpha	N - November
B - Bravo	O - Oscar
C - Charlie	P - Papa
D - Delta	Q - Quebec
E - Echo	R - Romeo
F - Foxtrot	S - Sierra
G - Golf	T - Tango
H - Hotel	U - Uniform
I - India	V - Victor
J - Juliet	W - Whiskey
K - Kilo	X - Xray
L - Lima	Y - Yankee
M - Mike	Z - Zulu

COMMON CW ABBREVIATIONS

Abbreviation	Use
<u>AR</u>	over
de	from or "this is"
ES	and
GM	good morning
K	go
<u>KN</u>	go only
NM	name
QTH	location
RPT	report
R	roger
<u>SK</u>	clear
tnx	thanks
UR	your, you are
73	best wishes

Basic Resources



US Amateur Radio Bands

Operator license classes: **E** = Amateur Extra **A** = Advanced **G** = General **T** = Technician **N** = Novice
 CW operation is permitted throughout all amateur bands. Except as noted, all frequencies are in megahertz (MHz).

■ = RTTY, data, phone, image
 ■ = USB phone, RTTY, data and CW
 ■ = RTTY and data
 ■ = phone and image
■ = SSB phone
 = CW only

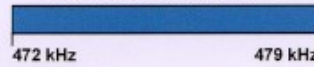
LF – Low Frequency band

2200 Meters (135 kHz) E,A,G
 1 W EIRP maximum

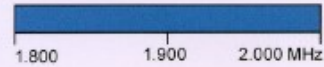


MF – Medium Frequency bands

630 Meters (472 kHz) E,A,G
 5 W EIRP max, except in Alaska within 496 miles of Russia where the limit is 1 W EIRP



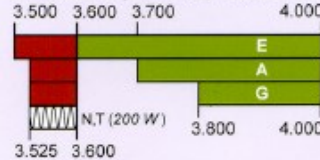
160 Meters (1.8 MHz) E,A,G



Amateurs wishing to operate on **2200 or 630 meters** must first register with the Utilities Technology Council online at <https://utc.org/plc-database-amateur-notification-process/>. You need only register once for each band.

HF – High Frequency bands

80 Meters (3.5 MHz) E,A,G,T,N

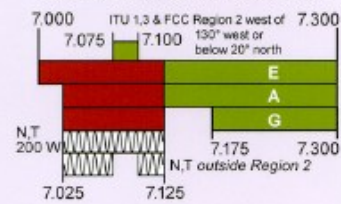


60 Meters (5.3 MHz) E, A, G (100 W)

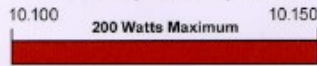


Gen, Adv, and Extra licensees may operate on a secondary basis with a maximum ERP of 100 W maximum.

40 Meters (7 MHz) E,A,G,T,N



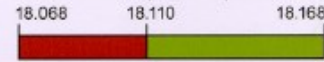
30 Meters (10.1 MHz) E,A,G



20 Meters (14 MHz) E,A,G



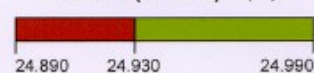
17 Meters (18 MHz) E,A,G



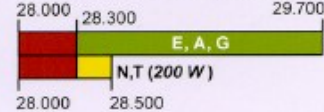
15 Meters (21 MHz) E,A,G,T,N



12 Meters (24 MHz) E,A,G



10 Meters (28 MHz) E,A,G,T,N



VHF – Very High Frequency bands

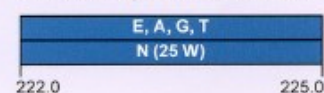
6 Meters (50 MHz) E,A,G,T



2 Meters (144 MHz) E,A,G,T

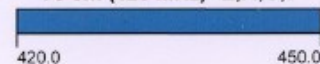


1.25 Meters (222 MHz) E,A,G,T,N



UHF – Ultra High Frequency bands

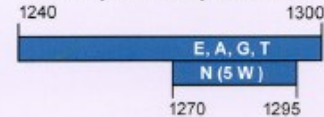
70 cm (420 MHz) E,A,G,T



33 cm (902 MHz) E,A,G,T



23 cm (1240 MHz) E,A,G,T,N



SHF&EHF – Super and Extremely High Frequency bands

All licensees except Novices are authorized all modes on the following frequencies:

2300-2310 MHz	3300-3500 MHz	10.0-10.5 GHz	47.0-47.2 GHz	122.25-123.0 GHz	241-250 GHz
2390-2450 MHz	5650-5925 MHz	24.0-24.25 GHz	76.0-81.0 GHz	134-141 GHz	All above 275 GHz

See www.rrl.org/band-plan/ for detailed band plans.

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 OTAbands rev. 1-22-20

Upcoming Testing

Looking to upgrade or know someone looking for a testing location?
More information available at ARRL.org

- **02/20/2024 | [Woodstock IL 60098-2953](#)**
Sponsor: McHenry County Wireless Assoc
Location: Free Methodist Church
Time: 7:00 PM (No Walk-ins / Register or Call ahead) [Learn More](#)
- **02/24/2024 | [Delavan WI 53115-1932](#)**
Sponsor: The Lakes Area ARC
Location: Community Center
Time: 1:00 PM (No Walk-ins / Register or Call ahead) [Learn More](#)
- **03/02/2024 | [Madison WI 53715-2143](#)**
Sponsor: Four Lakes ARC
Location: Univ of WI Space Place
Time: 8:00 AM (Walk-ins allowed) [Learn More](#)
- **03/09/2024 | [McHenry IL 60050-4422](#)**
Sponsor: NW IL S WI Amrron
Location: McHenry Masonic Lodge
Time: 10:00 AM (Walk-ins allowed) [Learn More](#)
- **03/19/2024 | [Dixon IL 61021](#)**
Sponsor: Sterling Rock Falls ARS
Location: Sauk Valley Community College
Time: 9:00 AM (Walk-ins allowed) [Learn More](#)
- **04/06/2024 | [Freeport IL 61032-4116](#)**
Sponsor: Stateline Amateur Radio Club
Location: Freeport Public Library
Time: 12:30 PM (Walk-ins allowed) [Learn More](#)
- **04/06/2024 | [Madison WI 53715-2143](#)**
Sponsor: Four Lakes ARC
Location: Univ of WI Space Place
Time: 8:00 AM (Walk-ins allowed) [Learn More](#)

Hamfests & POTA Campout

Greetings,

The Hannibal Amateur Radio Club from Hannibal, MO in conjunction with the Western Illinois Amateur Radio Club (W9AWE) from Quincy, IL will be hosting a **HAMFEST** at the Palmyra, MO American Legion on Saturday, May 4th, 2024, from 0800 to 1200.

We would like to invite you to attend! The entry fee is \$8.00 per person online or at the door. Students and active-duty military are free, Veterans \$5.00. Exhibitors may purchase a vendor table (8 feet long) for \$10.00 for the first and second table and \$5.00 for each additional table. Up to two chairs can be provided for each table if necessary. There will also be a designated area for tailgaters available for \$5.00 per space. Refreshments, limited to soda, water, and chips (and, of course coffee!) will be available for a nominal fee. ARRL sanctioned VE's will be available on-site for all your testing needs.

We will have a Prize drawing for a Yaesu FT-70DR at 11:30, a 50/50 drawing, as well as several other prizes/giveaways throughout the event.

For further information, or to book a table or tailgate space, feel free to contact any of the following:

Joe LauLetta, W6JFL, 559-904-2352, joefromkings@comcast.net

Don Vary, KD0HHN, 573-719-9002, kd0hhn@hotmail.com

Danny Pease, W9DP, 217-430-2046, w9dp@w9dp.us

Non-hams and prospective hams are always welcome!

Hannibal Amateur Radio Club W0KEM and Quincy Amateur Radio Club W9AWE Are happy to present the only NE Missouri/Western Illinois **HAMFEST!**

**It's like an Amateur Radio swap meet –
Buy, sell, trade, browse, etc.**



**When –
Saturday, May 4, 2024
From 8:00 until 12:00 Noon**

**Where –
American Legion
600 Short St.
Palmyra, MO**

-Entry fee is \$8.00, but FREE for anybody with a student ID. \$5.00 for veterans.

-TESTING for an FCC Amateur Radio license is available on site!

-Refreshments available.

-VENDORS: \$10/table for first 2 tables, \$5/table each additional table. (1-2 chairs provided for each table.)

For more information, or to reserve a table, Contact HARC or WIARC at these phone numbers: Joe W6JFL: 559-904-2352 or Danny W9DP: 217-430-2046

53rd Annual

Madison Hamfest

Sponsored by MARA, the Madison Area Repeater Association
A Non-Profit Organization

Saturday April 13, 2024
8:00 AM until 12:00 PM

The MARA Hamfest features vendors of new and used equipment for Amateur Radio, Electronics, Computers, computer parts and software. Come see our huge Flea Market in the Mandt Community Center's spacious 26,000 sq ft main hall.

VE testing starts at 10:00 AM.

Vendor space is sold on a "first come, first served bases"

Location: Mandt Community Center (Same location since 2000)
GPS: North 42.91157 West 89.21647
Address: 400 Mandt Parkway, Stoughton, Wisconsin
Directions: Take US Hwy 51 South from Madison to downtown Stoughton, WI.
Turn South on 4th Street and the Mandt Center is 3 blocks ahead on the left
Talk in: MARA's Wide Area Repeater 147.150 MHz (+600) pl 123.0
Parking: Free
Seller Setup: Friday night 6:00 PM to 8:00 PM and Saturday morning, 6:00 AM

Ticket, Table and Chair Prices

Tables are limited to availability!

Hamfest general admission tickets:	Purchased on website	\$8.00 per person
Ages 12 and younger: FREE	At the door CASH ONLY!	\$10.00 per person
Eight-foot vendor table fees	Purchased by March 25	\$20.00
Admission tickets are NOT included	After March 25	\$25.00
In the price of tables		
Chairs		\$5.00
AC Service		\$30.00
Admission ticket along with table rental is Required		At the door is CASH ONLY

MARA is not responsible for theft or damage. All orders are final – No refunds.

Hamfest tickets, and vendor table space can be purchased at the MARA website: www.w9hsy.org If you have questions about purchasing tickets, chairs, table space. Please check the web page or contact us by e-mail at hamfest@w9hsy.org



The DeKalb Hamfest



Sponsored by the Kishwaukee Amateur Radio Club
Sunday...May 5, 2024...8am to 1:00 pm
Vendor/Tailgate Setup—Saturday 1 PM to 9 PM
and Sunday 6 AM to 8 AM via Back Gate
\$8.00 Advance Ticket (Double-Stub—See Below)
\$10.00 Admission at the gate (Single Stub).

Overnight Camping on Fairgrounds \$25 per night—Includes Electric and Sewer

Rain or Shine
2 Large Buildings
3 Cash Prizes
Prize Drawings Every
Half Hour

Free Outside
Tailgating
No VE Testing
Chairs not furnished

Food Vendor: Hyvee
Fairground Regulations
Prohibit Vehicles in
buildings



Always the First Sunday in May. May 5, 2024
Sandwich Fairgrounds, Sandwich, IL
(Just North of RT. 34 Intersection of SUYDAM and GLETTY Roads)
TALK-IN: KARC Repeater 146.730 pl=100 (-) or 146.52 Simplex
**** PLEASE USE MAIN GATE ****

????????????? Questions ??????????????
Phone: Bob Yurs—W9ICU—Hamfest Chairman at 815-757-3219
Or e-mail w9icu@arrrl.net
KARC Hamfest Webpage / Hotel Info: www.karc-club.org

Return to: KARC, PO Box 371, DeKalb, IL 60115
Deadline: April 20, 2024 MUST INCLUDE SASE FOR ADVANCE TICKET SALES

Advance Tickets will not be for sale on site
ADVANCE TICKETS @ \$8 each (Dual Stubs)
INSIDE TABLES @ \$10 each (FREE TAILGATING)
Total...Please make checks payable to KARC

Telephone Number _____ e-mail address _____
Call Sign _____

STARVED ROCK RADIO CLUB™

AMERICAN RADIO RELAY LEAGUE SANCTIONED HAMFEST 2024



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

AMATEUR RADIO HOBBYIST &
COLLECTORS SHOW



SUNDAY, JUNE 2nd 2024
Indoor 8:00am to 1:00pm

MENDOTA TRI-COUNTY FAIRGROUNDS
503 1st Ave, Mendota, IL 61342

ARRL VE TESTING 9:30am to 11:00am
GRAND PRIZE CASH DRAWINGS \$50-\$75-\$100 at 12:00noon

TICKETS \$8.00 ADVANCED (2 Stubs) or \$10.00 AT GATE (2 Stubs)
ALL ADVANCED ORDERS MUST BE RECEIVED BY MAY 20th 2024
GRAND PRIZE WINNERS NEED NOT BE PRESENT TO WIN.

- ✓ LARGE INDOOR EXHIBIT BUILDINGS - Indoor Setup: Sat 12noon to 6pm & 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
SRRCTM C/O Hamfest Chairman, PO Box 198, Leonore, IL 61332-0198

E-mail: starvedrockhamfest@gmail.com or see our internet site for latest info www.w9mks.org

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

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

TALK-IN by SRRCTM Repeater - W9MKS 147.120 +103.5PL

BREAKFAST and LUNCH ON-SITE BY CATERER

To keep Ticket prices down, DO NOT dispose of unwanted equipment on the fairgrounds.

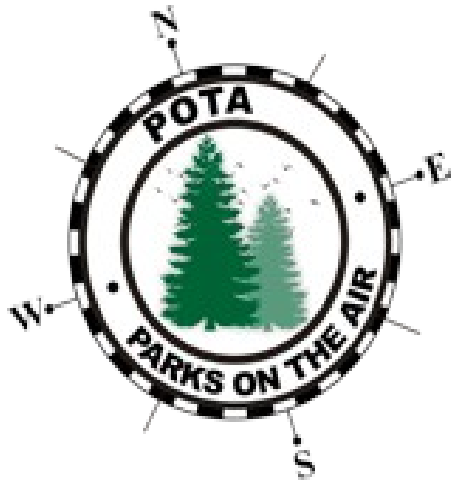
If it doesn't sell or you can't give it away- Take it Home!

MAIL WITH PAYMENT & SASE ENCLOSED TO:

SRRCTM C/O Hamfest Chairman
PO Box 198
Leonore, IL 61332-0198

Make checks payable to SRRCTM

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



Northern Illinois POTA 2024 Spring Campout

Cliff N9BLE, Sean KD9CFO, Mike W9CPL, and Mike KD9OBF are hosting a spring campout and combined Parks on the Air event.

If you love both, we invite you to attend our first ever Northern Illinois POTA Spring Campout on March 22-24, 2024 at the Shabbona State Park campground in Shabbona State Park, ([POTA K-4103](#)). This event will be part social activity and part Parks on the Air activation. You can activate as little or as much as you want, in whatever mode you choose.

The sky is the limit. Learn new skills, see how other hams operate, and learn how to deal with interference when a bunch of hams get on the air at the same time. That's always part of the fun. The weekend is guaranteed to be a blast.

Dates and Location
March 22-24, 2024

[Shabbona State Park Campground](#)



[Shabbona State Park](#)
4201 Shabbona Grove Road
Shabbona, IL 60550
Park office: 815/ 824-2106
Camp Hosts: 815/ 824-2565
[Parks on the Air K-4103](#)

Notice: This is not a Parks on the Air sanctioned event. You are responsible for your own actions. Event hosts assume no liability.

Alcohol is prohibited in the park.

Here is a tentative outline of events that will form the basis of the weekend. As we get closer to the date, things might change.

- Friday evening social campfire
- Friday night – POTA activations, group and individual
- Saturday 10am - POTA 101 class for new activators
- Saturday all day - POTA activations, group and individual
- Saturday evening (5pm-ish) pot luck dinner (bring a dish to pass)
- Sunday morning – 8am Group coffee and donuts
- Sunday Till? – POTA activations, group and individual

Camp the entire weekend or just come out for the day/evening. We'd love to have you either way. The campsite fee is \$25.00 per night.

Due to the time of the year the Shabbona Lake SRA campground has available only 60 campsites that are on a first-come, first-serve basis.

All sites have electricity, picnic table, fire rings and vehicle access. A sanitary dump station is available to all campers. One family is allowed per campsite, or four unrelated adults with up to two tents. Campers must be ready to camp upon arrival.

Cliff, Sean, Mike, and Mike will be in sites 107, 108, 109. If you plan to attend please send an email to one of the fine gentlemen below. Remember the campsites are on a first come first serve basis.

Cliff N9BLE

cliff.n9ble@gmail.com

Mike KD9OBF

mikehauptman@comcast.net

Sean KD9CFO

sean@soliloquyforthefallen.net

Michael W9CPL

cott31@comcast.net

Please be aware that camping in March in Northern Illinois can run the gamut. The weather may be beautiful and sunny or it can be cold and snowy. Typically March in Northern Illinois we expect highs around 50 and lows down to 32. This event will happen rain or shine. Be prepared for changing weather conditions. If you need to cancel due to the weather, that is totally ok.

Communications: Since we are all amateurs and communications is the focus of the weekend, here is the repeater and simplex frequency we will use for the event. At the bare minimum please have the simplex ones programmed in your handheld so they can be used for in park P2P contacts:

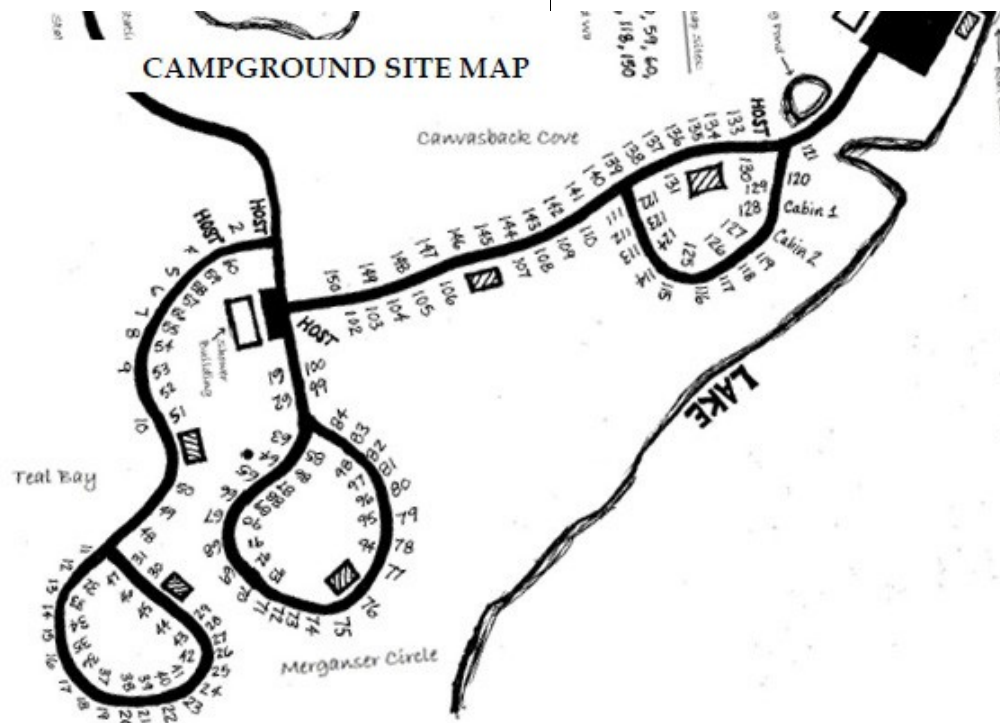
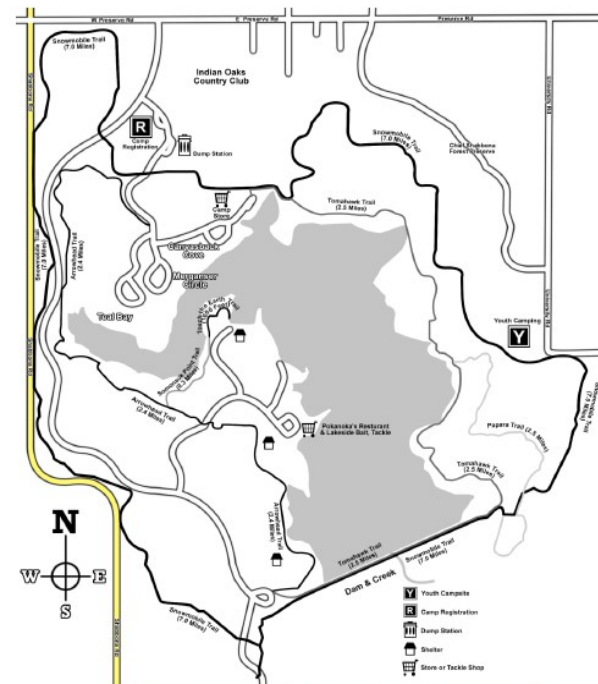
Simplex:

146.520 Mhz Simplex Talk-in and in park P2P channel

146.495 MHz Simplex event channel

Repeater:

146.730 (-0.6M, 100.0) WA9CJN, Dekalb. Primary Talk-in.





website: w9axd.org
email: w9axdrara@gmail.com

2024 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. 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 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. New memberships are good from 10-1-2023 thru 12-31-2024.