

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.

Club Service Project

We have a unique opportunity to get exposure to our club. Midway Village Museum in Rockford has asked if we could construct an antique working telegraph system at their sight, It would need to be authentic looking and sounding. Boundary conditions are that we have no budget from either RARA or Midway village. We would be able however to have numerous opportunities for community contact. I think that we could get them to permanently display the origin of the project.

We would need donated 2 keys and sounders from the railroad era (ca. 1900). There could be some latitude, but the design would have to be from that era. We could construct things like sound amplifiers for the sounders, but they would need to be authentic. We would also have to build period battery boxes to hide the power supply (Wet batteries would be too dangerous) While the use of American Morse code would be nice, the only one who would recognize the difference would be an old Railroader.

The proposed sight of the two stations would be the General Store/Post Office, and the Bank. Fortunately there is a pole behind and in-between the two buildings at the rear. Wire could be run at an angle between the buildings on a single existing pole. The wire would need to be single strand.

We would have to figure out the least intrusive manner to enter the wires into the buildings. There is household current to power the supply, but the feed would have to be hidden,

We would like to take some time at a meeting to discuss this in detail. We have until May of 2013, and we are allowed access to the museum without visitors (probably before it opens next year). Please give this some thought. We would like to submit some questions to the museum staff to see what causes them "heartburn". Then we could work around our needs and their requirements.

After that Q&A we could submit a proposal, After the proposal is approved, there would be need for volunteers to construct and install the system. Once the system is completed and operational, there would be a need for operators to send and receive messages between the two stations. There would be a need for period clothing for the operators.

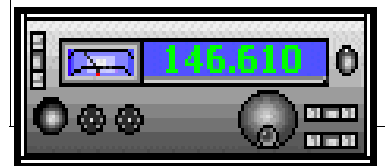
Right now, we would need photos, and questions. We would need volunteers to research the details so we could do a professional job.

This is an opportunity to make a permanent mark on the local history in Rockford with permanent recognition for the club.

August 2012

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NEXT MEETING

FRIDAY
August 10, 2012

Location:
Foundation Room

Saint Anthony OSF
5666 East State Street
Rockford, Illinois

Program: Directional
Antennas Design and
Performance
Doug Abrahamson
KC9SDO

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

From the Treasurer

Treasurer's Report:

For the period 30 June 2012 to 29 July 2012

Submitted to the Ham Rag by John G. Olson 2012 RARA treasurer.

Income : \$ 15.80 2nd Quarter interest – Savings Acct & Dues
Expenses: \$ 678.70 2012 Field Day and Family Picnic Expenses
Ending Checkbook Balance: \$1445.13 (per check register 29 JUL 2012)
Ending Repeater checking balance: \$ 300.00 (per 31 MAY 2012 Statement)
Ending Savings Balance \$3222.07 (per 29 JUN 2012 Statement)**
Ending total cash on hand: \$4967.20 (net decline of \$662.90)

** Savings account statements are issued by Alpine Bank quarterly

VOLUNTEER TO ASSIST WITH THE 2012 ON THE WATERFRONT FUND RAISING EFFORT ! See Gordy Seaman KC9NEX. Do something good for YOUR club! The success of this event is crucial to our financial well being in 2013.

An Important Act from the Illinois Legislature affecting Radio Amateurs

Public Act 097-0720

HB1390 Enrolled LRB097 07768 KMW 47880 b

AN ACT concerning local government.

Be it enacted by the People of the State of Illinois,
represented in the General Assembly:

Section 5. The Illinois Municipal Code is amended by adding
Section 11-13-1.5 as follows:

(65 ILCS 5/11-13-1.5 new)

Sec. 11-13-1.5. **Amateur radio communications; antenna regulations.** Notwithstanding any provision of law to the contrary, no ordinance or resolution may be adopted or enforced by a municipality after the effective date of this amendatory Act of the 97th General Assembly that affects the placement, screening, or height of antennas or antenna support structures that are used for amateur radio communications unless the ordinance or resolution: (i) has a reasonable and clearly defined aesthetic, public health, or safety objective and represents the minimum practical regulation that is necessary to accomplish the objectives; and (ii) reasonably accommodates amateur radio communications.

A municipality may not regulate the antennas or antenna support structures that are used for amateur radio communications in a manner inconsistent with this Section. This Section is a limitation under subsection (i) of Section 6 of Article VII of the Illinois Constitution on the concurrent exercise by home rule units of powers and functions exercised by the State.

Section 99. Effective date. This Act takes effect upon becoming law.

ARRL Central Division
Director: George R Isely, W9GIG
w9gig@arrl.org

From the Acting Secretary

Secretary's Report – RARA Club Meeting July 13, 2012

The meeting was brought to order by President Tom Shouler, N9VJU at 7:07 PM. 17 people were in attendance. The first order of business was a reading of the Secretary's report from the June club meeting by acting secretary John Olson, W9JGO. A motion to accept the report as read was made by Doug Abrahamson, KC9SDO and seconded by Denny Johanson, K9VMJ. The report was accepted by a unanimous voice vote. A reading of the current treasurer's report by John Olson was followed by a motion to accept the report as read by Robert Larson, KC9ICH and seconded by Jim Holich, AB9SX. The report was accepted by a unanimous voice vote. A letter to the membership by John Olson was read explaining the reason for an untimely June treasurer's report. Also mentioned was the need to seriously consider volunteering for OTW this year, a request for an audit for the treasurer's books for 2011 and the need for a volunteer to assume the Secretary's duties. No one stepped forward for any of the aforementioned "opportunities".

Old Business:

The 147.000 and 220mHz repeater installations are on hold awaiting cooler temperatures.

New Business:

Sharon Harlan, N9SH, mentioned that the cover of the October 1977 issue of QST featured a photo of RARA's Field Day.

John Olson read a card from Colette Seland concerning the donation of 412 issues of QST and 38 issues of CQ from her Father's estate, Paul Haggerty, W9YPE. Apparently I was not fast enough with a response, She had already contacted Robert Larson and made arrangements to drop the magazines at his home. John Olson mentioned the need for a club library, space to store library items and a club librarian. Again, no volunteer, except for possible storage space.

Tom Shouler stated that he was contacted by Ed Larson of Midway Village Museum asking for help in setting up two "Turn of Century" Telegraph Stations for use by next year's Chautauqua event. Jim Holich and Doug Abrahamson volunteered to get the ball rolling for this one. It was mentioned that Carl Cacciatore is a member of the Midway Village Museum board. This could be good P.R. For the club. Denny Johanson provided some info on the only remaining functional B-29 WWII Bomber radio operation issues.

A motion was made to recognize those responsible for the success of our Field Day, Breakfast in the Park and Family Picnic events. Sending a letter of thanks to each. Chuck Derwent, K9SAN, made the motion. It was seconded by Jim Holich. The motion was carried. I'm sorry, I missed who made the initial statement...

The business meeting was ended at 7:32 PM, followed by a break and the evening's program, a video from club archives about the first ham radio contacts from earth to space and back from a "live" astronaut. This was an ARRL presentation.

Sharon Harlan suggested that the CD featuring RARA members and students of Christian Life school contacting ham astronauts in the ISS space station be replayed at a future meeting as many of the current members have not seen it.

Respectfully submitted by John Olson, W9JGO, RARA 2012 acting Secretary

AMATEUR RADIO EXAM NOTICE

July 21st there was 1 upgrade and 2 new licensees.

Upgrade:

Steven J Arntzen KB9IZT, General

New:

Jason T Bender, Technician

David F Haskell, Technician

Thanks to Shari Harlan N9SH and Alvin Alexander KC9GIO for volunteering their time.

Amateur Radio exams are held the 3rd Saturday of every month in Rockford IL. The next session is 9AM August 18, 2012. Walk-ins welcome. Check-in is from 9AM-10:30AM. We require two signature ID's (one with a photo). If you are a licensed Amateur Radio operator bring your current license and a copy. If you are using a CSCE for an element credit, bring the original and a copy (We need to see the originals & keep a photocopy of each document used for element credit). 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

Rockford IL

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

Rusty Cordell WB9QYV

wb9qyv@aol.com

AREA Repeaters

146.610 -	ENC/DEC pl 114.8	W9AXD
147.000 +	ENC/DEC pl 114.8	W9AXD
223.880 -	ENC/DEC pl 118.8	W9AXD
ATV input 1250 Mhz/ 434 Mhz		W9ATN
	output 421.25 Mhz	
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	

2010 RARA Officers and Board

Officers:

President - Tom Shouler, N9VJU, 815-877-9129

Vice President - Open

Secretary - Open

Treasurer - John Olson W9JGO 815-399-4368

Directors:

Doug Abrahamson, KC9SDO 815-979-0329

Kurt Eversole, KE9N 815-389-2784

Dave Larsen, N9ZXL 815-399-8205

Gordon Seaman, KC9NEX 815-234-5034

Web Master - Robert Larson, KC9ICH, 815-226-1875

Ham Rag Editor - Jim Holich, AB9SX, 779-552-8796

Repeater Chairman - Chuck Ingle, AB9KA, 815-979-1049

The K7RA Solar Report

Propagation Forecast Bulletin 31 ARLP031
From Tad Cook, K7RA
Seattle, WA August 3, 2012
To all radio amateurs

Average daily sunspot numbers this week were up over 47 points to 99.3. Average daily solar flux rose nearly 35 points to 131.7.

Solar flux jumped from 139.8 on Tuesday, July 31 to 150.1 on Wednesday, August 1. Predicted solar flux is 135 on August 3-4, 130 on August 5-6, 125 on August 7-9, 130 on August 10-11, and 120 on August 12-13. Solar flux is expected to drop below 100 on August 16-21. Predicted planetary A index is 8 on August 3, 5 on August 4-19, 8 on August 20-21, 5 on August 22-23, then 8, 8, 12 and 8 on August 24-27.

At the beginning of August we have some new sunspot data from our 3-month moving average. The three-month moving averages centered on January through June 2012 are 83.3, 73.7, 71.2, 87.3, 91.5, and 96.5. The average centered on June 2012 is every daily sunspot number from May 1 through July 31 added together, then divided by the number of days, which is 92. You could say that this latest number is the 3-month trailing average, or the 3-month average centered on June. Every month we include a new month of data and drop off an old month.

F.K. Janda, OK1HH says to expect mostly quiet geomagnetic conditions on August 3-4, active to disturbed on August 5, quiet to unsettled August 6-7, mostly quiet August 8, quiet on August 9, active to disturbed again on August 10-11, quiet to active August 12-13, mostly quiet on August 14-15, and quiet to active on August 16-17.

On the NASA Solar Cycle Prediction page, the only thing that has changed over the past few months is the date. This is issued monthly: <http://solarscience.msfc.nasa.gov/predict.shtml>.

If you would like to make a comment or have a tip for our readers, email the author at, k7ra@arrl.net.

For more information concerning radio propagation, see the ARRL Technical Information Service at <http://arrl.org/propagation-of-rf-signals>. For an explanation of the numbers used in this bulletin, see <http://arrl.org/the-sun-the-earth-the-ionosphere>. An archive of past propagation bulletins is at <http://arrl.org/w1aw-bulletins-archive-propagation>. Find more good information and tutorials on propagation at <http://myplace.frontier.com/~k9la/>.

Monthly propagation charts between four USA regions and twelve overseas locations are at <http://arrl.org/propagation>.

Instructions for starting or ending email distribution of ARRL bulletins are at <http://arrl.org/bulletins>.

Sunspot numbers for July 26 through August 1 were 77, 91, 108, 79, 106, 116, and 118, with a mean of 99.3. 10.7 cm flux was 114.7, 123.3, 126.6, 131.4, 136, 139.8, and 150.1, with a mean of 131.7. Estimated planetary A indices were 4, 5, 11, 6, 13, 6, and 6, with a mean of 7.3. Estimated mid-latitude A indices were 3, 5, 11, 6, 11, 5, and 7 with a mean of 6.9.

George Hollander K9GH (SK)

GEORGE A. HOLLANDER, 88 ROCKFORD - George A. Hollander, 88, formerly of Rockford, died Friday, July 20, 2012, at his home in Hazelhurst, Wis. Born Dec 4, 1923, in St. Paul, son of Johan Edwin Hollander and Maria Kristina Fenk. Married Lorraine H. Nelson on June 24, 1949, in Rockford. Member of Bethesda Covenant Church. Upon graduating high school in Chicago in 1942, George served as a military policeman during [World War II](#) and as an electronics technician during the [Korean Conflict](#). He was a lifetime amateur radio operator K9GH and longtime member of the grey haired net. George worked for the U.S. Postal Service after he left the military and later for Commonwealth Edison Company, retiring in 1982. He was always available to help his relatives and friends with almost any project. He carried good nature and a special sense of humor with him always. In retirement, George and Lorraine loved traveling, especially by motor home, and spent many winters in Florida RV parks. Survivors include children, Jon (Sue) of Rockford, Gail (Duane) Hoover of Hazelhurst, Wis., and Jean (Kim) Rogers of Janesville, Wis.; grandchildren, Sarah, Amy, Andrew, Mary, Roy, Amanda, Adam and Ross; great-grandchildren, Elijah, Micah, Grace, Emma and Andrew. Predeceased by wife, Lorraine Hollander. Memorial service at 11 a.m. Thursday, July 26, in Olson Funeral & Cremation Services Ltd., Fred C. Olson Chapel, 1001 Second Ave., with the Rev. Norman Shirk officiating. Memorial visitation from 10 to 10:45 a.m. Thursday at the funeral home. Memorials may be made to Bethesda Covenant Church, 2101 E. State St., Rockford IL 61104.

Published in Rockford Register Star from July 24 to July 25, 2012

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 Stockholm Inn”
2420 Charles Street
Rockford, IL 61108



Hamfest Information



Presents
RADIO EXPO 2012
 Saturday September 15th One Day Only

BOONE CO FAIRGROUNDS - US Rt 20 & IL 76 BELVEDERE, IL

42° 16' 54" N / 88° 51' 7" W



Radios ~Antennas~ Computers ~ Electronics for everyone!
 Grounds Open For Set Up Friday At Noon ~ Flea Market Opens - 6 AM
 Exhibit Buildings Open - 8 AM To 4 PM

* Newest Amateur Equipment From Major Manufacturers And Surplus Electronics *

Advanced Tickets \$ 8 with 4 stubs - At The Gate Tickets \$ 10 with 2 stubs (Kids Under 12 Free)
FREE PARKING - Outdoor Electrical Hookups Available - VEC Testing 9 - 12 Noon
 On Grounds Breakfast And Lunch Available **RVs/ Motor Homes - Water - Electric \$25.00 - No Waste Service**

Talk-in On The CFMC Repeater 146.76 (107.2 Hz PL) Linked To WX9MCS 147.255 (114.8PL) & 444.725 (107.2 Hz PL)
 (Grounds/ Local Area Talk In 146.550)

Got Expo Questions ??? Email Us Today cfmc.radioexpo@yahoo.com Or Call us 630-847-5317

Name _____ Call _____
 Address _____
 City _____ State _____ Zip _____ Phone _____

Table Reservations for both buildings-\$20.00 per table (8ft long) _____ x \$20.00 = _____
 4 or more tables - \$15.00 each _____ x \$15.00 = _____
 Advanced sale tickets 4 Stubs - \$ 8.00 - REQUIRED with tables _____ x \$ 8.00 = _____
 Inside ____/Outside electric ____ - Flea market - \$ 10.00 = _____
 Total = _____

**** Building assignment at discretion of CFMC / Do not mail table or ticket requests after Aug 27, 2012 ****
 Make check out to: CHICAGO FM CLUB 6348 N Milwaukee Ave #103 Chicago, IL 60646
 Remember to send a #10 (4 in by 9.5 in) self-addressed stamped envelope with your request.

ANNOUNCING
The 60th Anniversary of the
Midwest's Premier DX event!



60th Annual W9DXCC Convention & Banquet
Saturday, September 15, 2012
Holiday Inn - Elk Grove Village, Illinois
Sponsored by the Northern Illinois DX Association

PRESENTATIONS

HKONA Malpelo Island – Glenn Johnson W0GJ
T32C Island of Kiritimati (Christmas Island) – Chris Duckling G3SVL
FCC Activities/ARRL Lobbying (PRB-1 Update) – Chris Imlay W3KD
Propagation Update – Cycle 24 Predictions – Carl Luetzelschwab K9LA
Rare Telegraph Keys from the collection of Dave Newman NE9H
Tales from the Latest IOTA Expedition – Mike McGirr K9AJ
Northern California DX Foundation Update
And much, more – See website for details

ARRL FORUM

Central Division Director Dick Isely W9GIG, Central Division Vice Director Kermit Carlson W9XA, and DXAC Advisory Committee Jim O’Connell W9WU

GRAND BANQUET AND PRIZES

Noted DX’er and Contester Fred Laun K3ZO—Banquet Speaker
Master of Ceremonies: Jim O’Connell W9WU

Special 60th Anniversary Activities

Major Prizes from Leading Vendors
ARRL and CQ awards card checking

COME EARLY: Register for the course “DXing from the Black Hole” from 1-5 pm Friday
Friday Welcome Reception

FOLLOWED BY: Late Friday Hospitality Suite Hosted by Northern Illinois DX Association

STAY LATE: Saturday Night Hospitality Suite Hosted by Greater Milwaukee DX Association

For further convention information, contact Paula Uscian, K9IR pmuscian@sbcglobal.net

For information about taking the course “DX’ing From the Black Hole,” contact Jack Hudson, W9MU jhud-



P.O. Box 8465, Rockford, IL 61126

Website: www.w9axd.org

E-mail: jholich@comcast.net

<u>Nets</u>		
Monday 8 PM	RARA Info.	146.610 - 114.8
Monday 9 PM	10M SSB Net	28.375 +/- USB
Thursday 7 PM	ARES	147.255 + 114.8

place address label here

August 2012

ROCKFORD AMATEUR RADIO ASSOCIATION MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

Single Adult: \$25.00 Adult w/Family: \$30.00
Single Senior: \$15.00 Senior w/Family: \$20
Student: \$15.00

Above rate includes the RARA monthly newsletter, Ham Rag, via email.

Name _____ Call Sign _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Home Phone _____

Work Phone _____

Email _____

Renewal _____ New _____ Retired _____

Radio Interests _____

Other Interests _____

Suggestions: _____

RETURN COMPLETED FORM TO:

ROCKFORD AMATEUR RADIO ASSOCIATION
P.O. BOX 8465
ROCKFORD, ILLINOIS 61126