

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.

April 2017

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President's Message

Greetings all,

Well, here it is April already, and I'm not ready for all of the outdoor activities that seem to be coming up. Like most, I have yard work from the winter to clean up, and antenna projects to be done, now that the weather will allow working outside without freezing. For those who may not know, Kurt Eversole, KE9N, has stepped up and volunteered to take the open Vice President's spot. This brings the board to full strength and hopefully helps balance duties that need to be done. Our current secretary, Bruce Carlson, N9OHT, is currently residing in Florida where he and his wife bought a winter home. He has informed the board that he will be gone all next winter and will be giving up the secretary position. At this time I'm covering his duties of taking minutes at the meetings and would like for someone to volunteer and take meeting minutes for us. Please see me at the April meeting and I will explain how simple the procedure is. Also be prepared to see a great presentation on using old computer power supplies to power your ham equipment put on by Kurt, KE9N. Well, that is enough rambling from me, I hope to see everyone at our April meeting on the 14th at 7:00 PM at OSF in the Foundation room.

Sincerely,
Gordon Seaman KC9NEX



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NEXT MEETING

FRIDAY

April 14, 2017

7:00 pm

Presentation:

**“Repurposing
computer power
supplies and UPS
units”**

Location:

**St. Anthony
Medical Center**

Foundation Room

**5666 E. State Street
Rockford, IL**

\$\$\$ 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.

Starting in April, the Hamrag notice will only be sent to those who have renewed their membership for 2017.



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

Secretary's Report

Membership Meeting Minutes, March 10, 2017

The meeting was called to order at 7:15 pm, 19 people were present.

The meeting minutes from February were read, with a motion to accept by Jim Holich, AB9SX, seconded by Kurt Eversole, KE9N. The motion passed.

The treasure's report was read. A motion to accept was by Larry Schubert, AC9GO, seconded by Ron Callahan, N2RON. The motion passed.

Old Business:

Jim Holich, AB9SX, asked about storm damage reports from the 147.195 Winnebago County repeater and was told that it was a power supply problem and already has been fixed.

New Business:

Chuck Ingle, AB9KA, spoke on the use of the VFW club in Roscoe for the upcoming RARA Field Day event and Kurt Eversole, KE9N, also spoke about some of the ideas he is considering.

Kurt Eversole, KE9N, also spoke about changes happening on our web page and updates being done.

Jennifer Van Zieleghe, KD9FMJ, spoke about our Facebook page and asked those who hadn't yet seen it to check it out and join. She also presented the idea for members to bring items to the meeting for show and tell sessions.

Jim Holich, AB9SX, brought up posting on Facebook that he was willing to teach classes for either Technician, and or General classes if there was enough interest.

Gordon Seaman, KC9NEX, asked if anyone was interested in joining the repeater committee and if so see him after the meeting.

A short break ensued and the 50/50 raffle was held, Jim Holich, AB9SX, won \$16.00.

The program for the night was on Echolink. The section for computers was put on by Kurt Eversole, KE9N, followed by Echolink on your smart phone, put on by Jennifer Van Zieleghe, KD9FMJ. All in attendance appeared to enjoy the presentations and asked many questions.

There was a motion to adjourn from Jim Holich, AB9SX, and seconded by Larry Schubert, AC9GO, the motion passed and the meeting adjourned at 9:30 pm.

Respectfully submitted by:
Gordon Seaman, KC9NEX

UPCOMING RARA EVENTS

April 14th - General RARA Meeting 7:00 pm at OSF

April 18th - RARA Board Meeting 7:00 at OSF

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

May 16th - RARA Board Meeting 7:00 at OSF

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.

This issue is devoted to portable operating! 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 May 2017 Hamrag will be Sunday, April 30, 2017

Kurt - KE9N, Editor

Mobile Command Post coming to Rockford

Good Morning Everyone,

I will be bringing the Unified Mobile Command Post to Rockford on Saturday April 15th, the hours will be 10:00 AM to 2:00 PM. The truck will be located on the south side of the Salvation Army Church, 500 S. Rockford Ave.

All area ham radio operators are invited to attend and see what communication options are available.

We also have volunteer opportunities with the truck and we can discuss them at the demo.

Please make this opportunity available to all of your folks and hope to see as many as possible.

73,
Scott, W9SBA

Scott B. Allshouse, PHERC, COML
Stephenson County Health Dept.
10 W. Linden Street
Freeport, IL 61032
815-599-8431 Office 815-291-3397 Cell

scott.allshouse@aeroinc.net

Hamfest Information

AARO - Fest

The **Area Amateur Radio Operators** will be holding their annual Hamfest on **Sunday, April 23rd, 2017**, at the Galva American Legion, Galva,
Talk-in 145.490 – 600 PL 225.7



Set up can be done Sunday 6AM until 8AM Sunday ONLY

We have a large space for a flea market and tables available on a limited basis.
The building is Handicap accessible.

Computer Stuff, Electronics, Radios, Crafts buy sell, and swap.

Advanced Tickets are \$5 three stub \$6-1 stub at the door.

Tables are \$10 Advance \$12 After April 10th 2017

Talk-in 145.490 225.7 PL

Email Write or Call for further information

Bill Anderson **WA9BA**
30 Wallace St
Galva, IL 61434
309-525-0061
wa9ba@arrl.net

Dave Krans **AD9Z**
613 Jefferson St
Toulon, IL 61483
309-525-1710
ad9z@arrl.net



Invitation to a special meeting of the IEEE-EMC Society of Chicago

The Chicago Chapter of the IEEE-EMC Society will be holding a special program on "Man-Made Noise and the Impact to Radio Communications – The Changing Environment".

The Chicago Chapter of the IEEE EMC Society will hold it's Wednesday-April 19th meeting at Fermilab in Batavia, Illinois. This meeting is free of charge, and is open to all interested parties, not just IEEE members. **LOCAL AMATEUR RADIO OPERATORS ARE ENCOURAGED TO ATTEND.**

The meeting program will feature Mr. Ed Hare (W1RFI) IEEE Vice-President of Standards and American Radio Relay League Laboratory Manager and Dr. Greg Lapin (N9GL) - Co-chair of the Spectrum and Receiver Performance Working Group of the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) Technological Advisory Council.

Detailed information and a map to the meeting location can be found at: <http://www.central.arrl.org/ieee/>.

For Registration contact Kermit Carlson, W9XA, at 630-840-2252 or email: Kermit@fnal.gov

Please note that the location at FERMILAB is Building #327, NOT the Wilson Hall High-Rise.

Originally there was an offer for a tour of the laboratory, however at this time the tours are full. Seats are still available for the meeting.

ARRL Central Division
Director: Kermit A Carlson, W9XA
w9xa@arrl.org

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 Gadj, 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 / Webmaster - Kurt Eversole, KE9N, 815-389-2784, kurt.eversole@gmail.com

NEWS FROM AROUND THE GLOBE

The Orlando Hamcasion 2017 by Bruce Carlson

I had a chance again to attend the Orlando Hamcasion, and the hamfest was attended by what I have heard was a record crowd of 19,000. This moves it up to the third largest hamfest in the world. Parking was scarce and if you didn't arrive by 10 a.m., well...good luck. Friday was a comfortable day to attend with reasonable crowds. Temperatures were in the 70's all weekend. All the major vendors were on hand and Bob Heil, as well as Gordon West, from Hamnation made the rounds and gave presentations.

I was fortunate to hear Bob Heil in a presentation on his life story, from his early days in radio and playing the concert organ, to his invention of the Talk Box (a device that allows a musician to talk through a tube creating robotic sounds with articulation) and used by Joe Walsh and Peter Frampton (Heil later sold the rights to this higher-powered talk box to Dunlop Engineering which still bears Heil's name. Bob has also created microphones for Carrie Underwood and one with a lighted grill he created was used in the Hunger Games movie. His presence is also seen in the Rock and Roll Hall of Fame. A microphone in a display used by "The Who" singer Roger Daltry is still wrapped in the 32-year old red gaffer's tape that Heil put on it to keep the mic from getting lost in the crowd. Bob is also recognized there for his sound contributions in music. I've seen Bob many times and had the opportunity to talk to him a couple times on 40meters.

Hamcasion also had a large flea-market that emptied my wallet more than once. Days without rain made for a very pleasant atmosphere. The hamfest is in Orlando and lodging is very easy to find in this tourist rich community. I hope to attend next spring and if any of you are there, look me up.

From the Sunny South,
Bruce Carlson, N9OHT



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