



HAMRAG

May 2018

May 11th

Digital Communications

Jennifer Van Zieleghe - KD9FMJ

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Next Meeting: Digital Communications • Friday May 11th 7:00 PM
Location: St. Anthony Medical Center • Foundation Room • 5666 E. State Street Rockford, IL

President's Message

Greetings all,

Here it is May already, the year is just flying by. I hope everyone came through last week's storms okay and didn't suffer too much storm damage. I saw a few posts on Facebook showing hail collected around Rockford and damage to cars and siding.

Next month is field day and plans are already in the works for that event. Planning is ongoing for our first attempt at having a fox hunt later this year. For those of you who may be interested in attending and or participating please watch for further information as it becomes available.

That is all I have to report on this month so I hope to see you at the the membership meeting on the 11th.

Sincerely,
Gordon Seaman KC9NEX
2018 RARA President
kc9nex@gmail.com



2018 RARA Officers & Board

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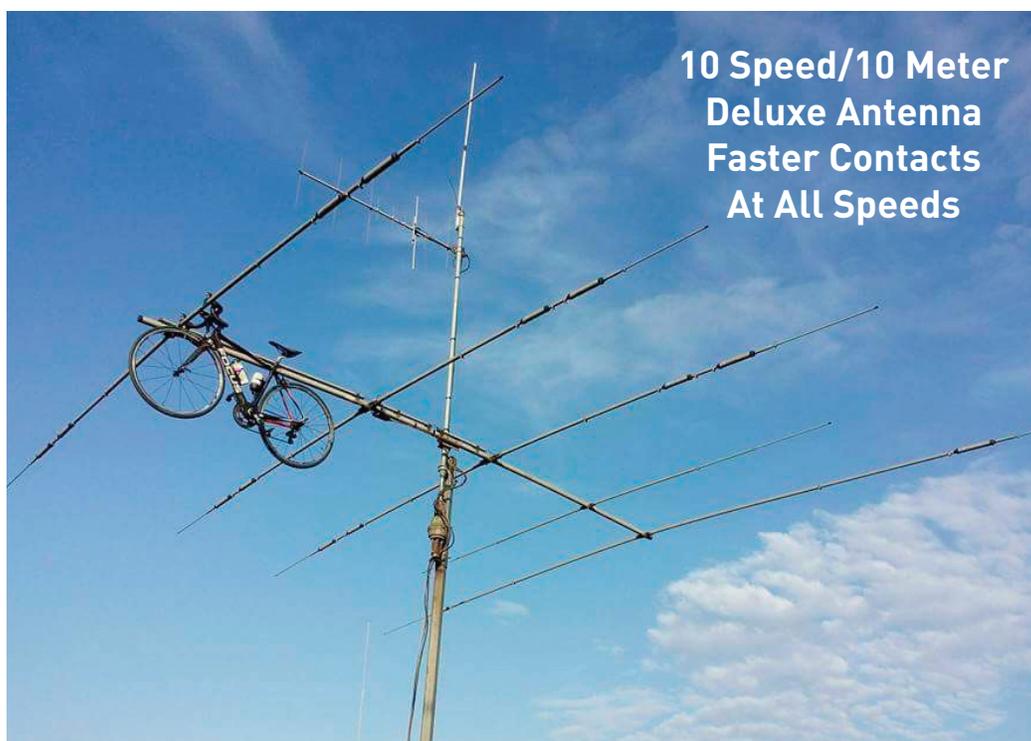
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rlarson4@sbcglobal.net



10 Speed/10 Meter
Deluxe Antenna
Faster Contacts
At All Speeds



Editor's Note

I'm still looking for articles or photos to add to the Hamrag. Somebody in the club must be working on a project or have thoughts about something radio related.

Drop me a few photos or a short tid bit. A funny story of events past within the club. Maybe you tried something new or have a question....

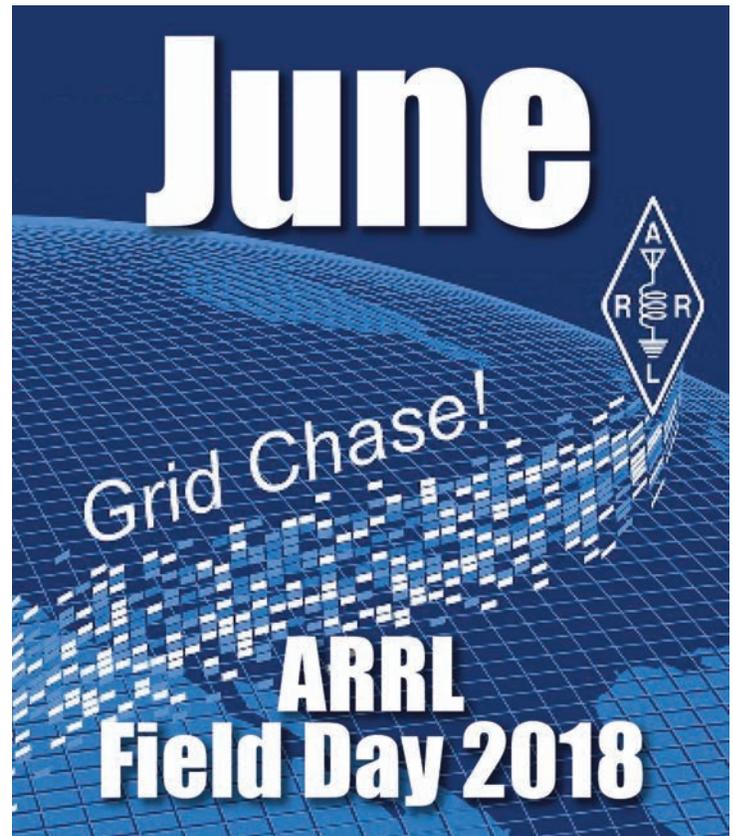
HELP FILL THE HAMRAG PAGES!

Thanks
Lynn Long KD9IFP
Hamrag Editor
randy@rdlgraphics.com.

**YESTERDAY I SAW AN
AD THAT SAID 'RADIO
FOR SALE, \$1, VOLUME
STUCK ON FULL'**

UnKNOWN PUNster @2018

**I THOUGHT, 'I CAN'T
TURN THAT DOWN'**



RARA Repeaters

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.

RARA Mission Statement

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

take
your
choice!

\$189⁰⁰



HQ-100

True Hammarlund quality at low cost! General coverage, 540 KCS to 30.0 MCS. 10-tube superheterodyne with automatic noise limiter. Electrical bandspread. Q-multiplier.

Optional Telechron clock-timer \$10

EVERYONE A WINNER!



\$249⁰⁰

HQ-110

A true amateur receiver at a low price! Dual conversion. 6, 10, 15, 20, 40, 80 and 160 meter ham bands. Crystal calibrator. Q-multiplier. Separate linear detector for SSB and CW. Separate BFO.

Optional Telechron clock-timer \$10



\$269⁰⁰

HQ-145

Brand-new general-coverage receiver! 540 KCS to 30.0 MCS. Dual conversion. Adjustable 60 db slot filter. Crystal filter. 11-tube superheterodyne with automatic noise limiter.

Optional Telechron clock-timer \$10
Optional plug-in 100 KCS calibrator \$15.95



\$359⁰⁰

HQ-170

Best for the amateur at any price! Dual and triple conversion 17-tube superheterodyne with automatic noise limiter. 60 db slot filter. Separate vernier tuning. Selectable sideband. Tuned IF amplifier. Crystal calibrator.

Optional Telechron clock-timer \$10



\$379⁰⁰

HQ-160

Everything you could wish for in general-coverage! 13-tube superheterodyne with automatic noise limiter. Dual conversion. 540 KCS to 31.0 MCS. Crystal calibrator. Electrical bandspread. Slot filter. Q-multiplier.



Established 1910

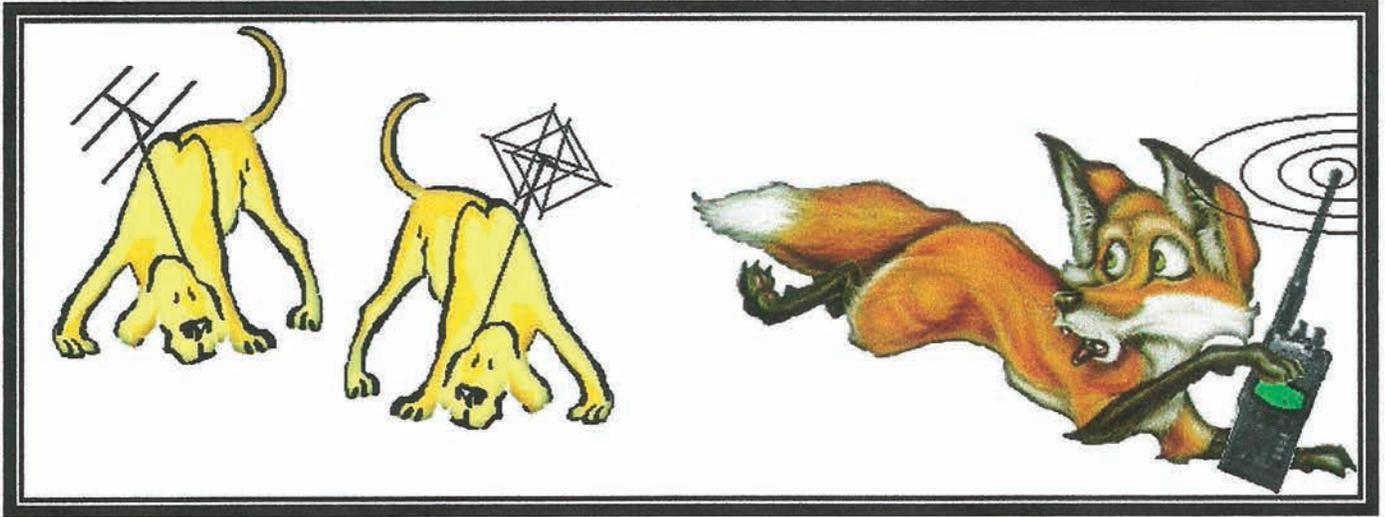
HAMMARLUND

MANUFACTURING COMPANY, INC.

460 West 34th Street, New York 1, N. Y.

In Canada: White Radio, Ltd., 41 West Ave., N. Hamilton, Ont.

An Ad From CQ Magazine Jan. 1959 - Just Love the prices



Stateline Amateur Radio Club

Fox Hunt

May 19 2018 1:00 till 2:30

Registration at 12:30

Pizza Party at Pizza Hut 3:00

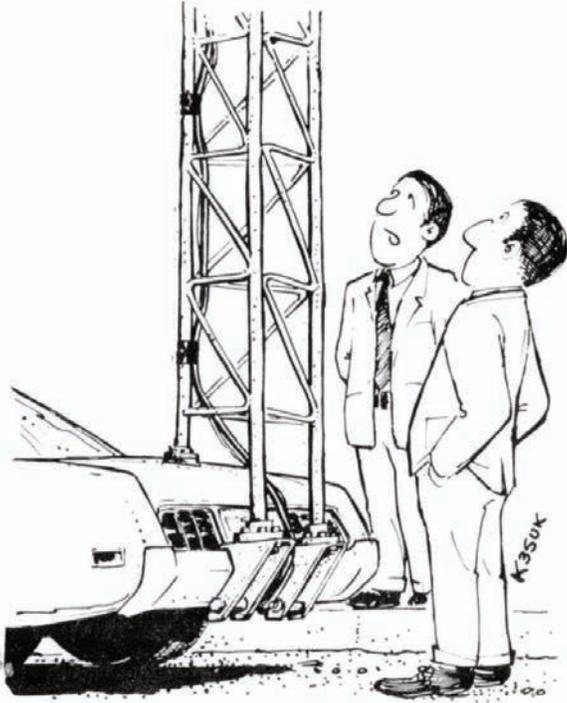
Registration is at Pizza Hut 1640 Willard Drive Freeport Il 61032 Pizza party at 3:00 is at same location. \$5.00 donation if attend Pizza Party.

Certificates and prizes will be awarded.

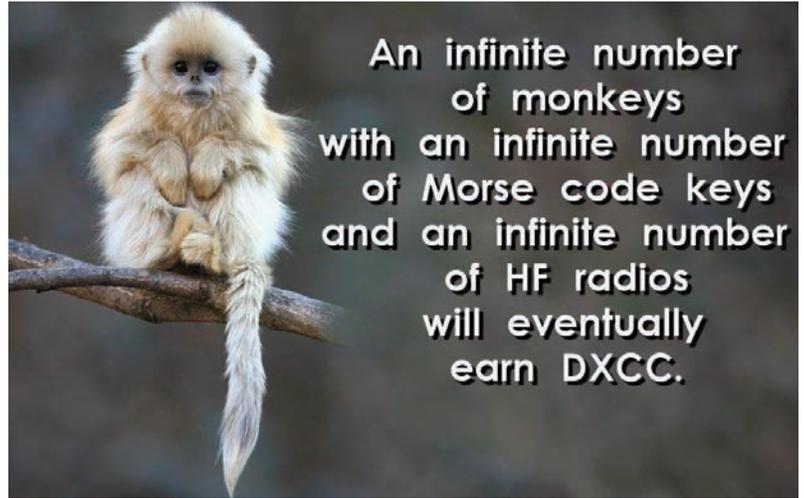
Please contact Tony N9ARB at n9arb.ec@gmail.com to preregister and /or Questions.

Hunt Frequencies TBA Soon

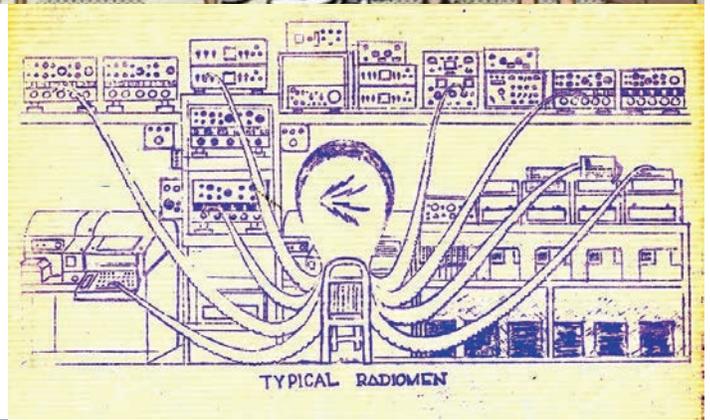
Ham Funny



"I'll betcha a steak dinner that he's not married."



"Ten minutes ago he was 40 over 9... then he went down in the mud."



Webmaster Code

I've added a few more old Hamrags from 1981 through 1985 to the archives at the website. Fun reading about old club activities and modes.

I have also expanded a couple of pages. The Hamfest section has a new link to an on-line data base of regional events. Plus the Nets page now has links to information about HF nets. Take a look.

RARA NEEDS YOUR HELP!!!!

We have the following three programs covered...

May - Digital Communications - FT8

Jennifer Van Zieleghe KD9FMJ

June - Field Day Preparation and Planning

Greg Kuczek W9VOX

July - System Fusion Digital Voice

Mark Thompson WB9QZB

However,

We are still looking for volunteers to help with programs during 2018. A few topics that could be covered are...

Satellite Communications

Antenna Analyzers

Antenna - options and installations

Shack/Tower Grounding

QRP & CW

Parks or other things On-The-Air

Connectors - Power Pole & Cable Assembly

We are open to other topics...

Maybe a project you're working on or a favorite mode? Worried that you can't fill an entire meeting with your topic? There are three meetings that will be shorter due to other items being covered (nominations, elections and field day prep). Get your feet wet by taking a shorter subject and help.

Thanks

Randy AC90F

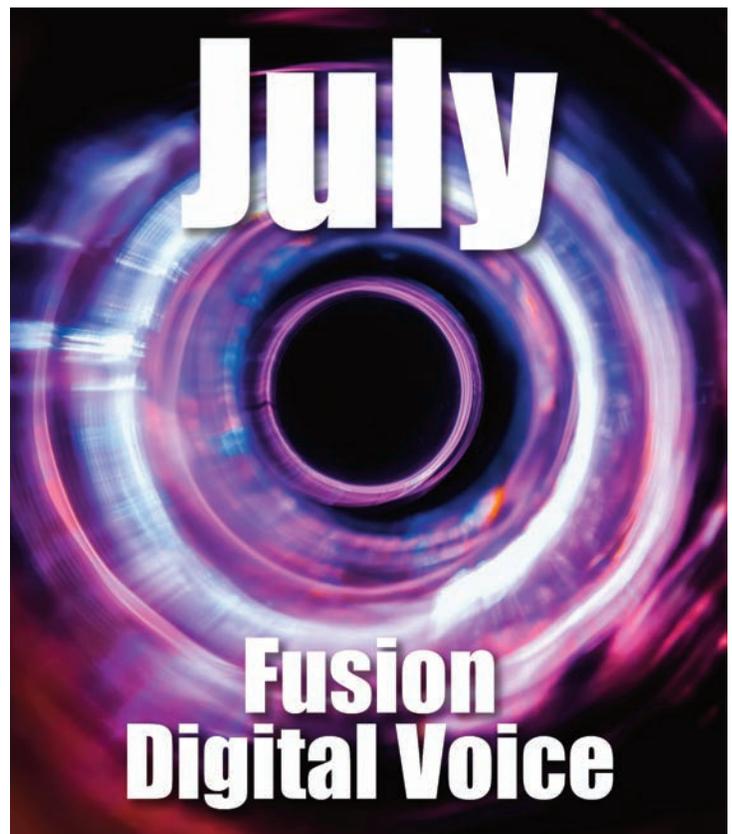
w9axd.org



Meets every Friday morning from 8 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





Programs

- June - Field Day Preparation and Planning
Greg Kuczek W9VOX
- July - System Fusion Digital Voice
Mark Thompson WB9QZB
- August - December
TBA - Any ideas?

Meetings

- May 11, 2018
General RARA Meeting 7:00 pm at OSF
- May 15, 2018
RARA Board Meeting 7:00 pm at OSF
- June 8, 2018
General RARA Meeting 7:00 pm at OSF
- June 19, 2018
RARA Board Meeting 7:00 pm at OSF

Ham Testing

Ferguson, Donald A.
General

Nelson, Daniel V. - K09KNG
Upgrade to General

Sjogren, Lynn D.
Technician

Amateur Radio exams are held the 3rd Saturday of every month in Rockford IL. The next session is 9 AM May 19, 2018.

Walk-ins welcome. Check-in is from 9AM-10AM, no exams started after 10:30.

We require two signature ID's and one photo. If you are a licensed Amateur Radio operator bring a copy of your FCC ULS page with your call sign. If you are using a CSCE for exam credit, bring the original and a copy (We need to see the originals & keep a photocopy of each). 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 (Bus US20) Rockford IL
Exams are held in the St Francis Room
(Main Entrance then turn right).

Jim Holich AB9SX
jholich@comcast.net

Sign-Up 4 Field Day

Sign up to help with Field Day 2018.

Let Greg W9VOX know when you can work a radio.

Name: _____

Call Sign: _____

Email Address: _____

Home Phone #: _____

Cell #: _____

Time Slot(s): _____

For More Information Contact:

Greg Kuczek - W9VOX - 815-713-5461
gjk1406@comcast.net



April 13, 2018

Randy, AC9OF, called the meeting to order at 7:05 p.m. No count was done on the number of attendees.

Jennifer, KD9FMJ, read the Treasurer's report. A motion to accept was made and approved.

The minutes from the March meeting were approved by Jacek, KD9ELI, as everyone had seen them in the Hamrag.

There was no old business.

New Business:

Greg W9VOX has volunteered to organize field days this year. It will be held at the same location as last year's at the Roscoe VFW.

Randy, AC9OF presented a letter from Watt Publishing asking for ideas to present a going away gift to a retiree who is a Ham operator.

Randy gave a presentation on Fox Hunting with a display of handmade tape measure and purchased Arrow antenna, along with several foxes and a sniffer.

If there is interest we would like to have several small hunts to get some practice in. We would possibly do a small presentation and hunt during field days.

The presentation ended at 8:10 and the display was opened to all to look at and to discussion.

Motion to adjourn at 8:18 by John, N9JHG and seconded by Jimmy, KC9GOL.

Respectfully submitted by;
Lynn Long, KD9IFP

Note: The Freeport hunt is May 19th.

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.

Tuesday Night Tech Net

at 8:00 pm, 145.110 (pl 123.0). Tony, N9ARB, is net control.

Wednesday Night Stephenson County ARES (Amateur Radio Emergency Service) Net

at 7:00 pm on 147.390 + offset (pl 114.8). N9ARB, Tony, is net control.

Thursday Night Northern Illinois ARES (Amateur Radio Emergency Service) Net

at 7:00 pm on the 147.195 + offset (pl 114.8) repeater with either Marianne, KT9KS; Sean, W9STR; or Ricky, WX9RLT, as net control.

Thursday Night Northern Illinois Skywarn net at 8:00 PM on the 147.195.

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.

HF Net Information - Head on over to the RARA website and take a look at the "Nets" page. We now have listings and links to great HF nets.

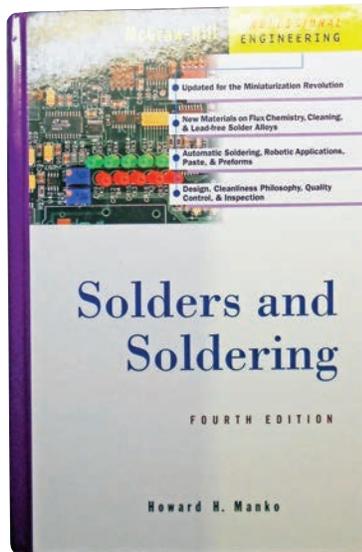
Ham Book Review

Have you ever had someone loan you a book and after a few pages you're looking to find your own copy because you know it's a book you need to have handy?...

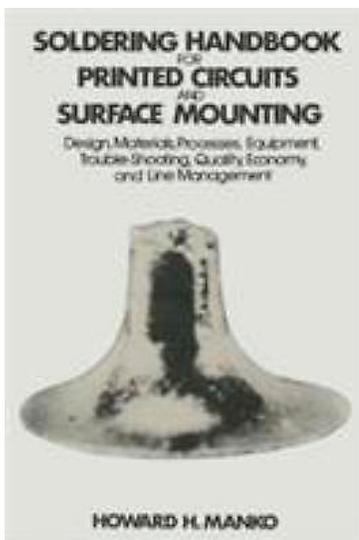
That just happened to me this last month at our testing session. Jim Holich AB9SX handed me a plain looking little book he thought I might like to read. BINGO - after just a few pages I knew it had to be added to my stack of stuff in the shack.

Solders & Soldering - Materials, Design, Production, & Analysis for Reliable Bonding by Howard H. Manko

If you ever wanted that little extra touch of knowledge (ha-ha) about soldering this book will provide that in-depth look at "The Physics of Wetting", Chemistry of Fluxes", "The Solder Bond" and much, much more. It's a dry, detailed read, but well worth the time and effort.



You'll gain a fresh new and in-depth view into the nitty gritty of soldering, plus the how and why it works. A book you'll keep handy in your reference library.



I did find a second book by the same author that covers soldering techniques, tools and methods that makes for a great follow-up read.

Both are available on Ebay as used books. Don't get put off by the high prices you might see at first. I took my time and after a few days I found both posted by used book stores for \$5.00 and \$15.00.

Randy - AC90F



"You're not interested in ham radio! How did that stupid computer ever match us up?"



What is ARRL Field Day?

ARRL Field Day is the single most popular on-the-air event held annually in the US and Canada. On the fourth weekend of June of each year, more than 35,000 radio amateurs gather with their clubs, groups or simply with friends to operate from remote locations.

Field Day is a picnic, a campout, practice for emergencies, an informal contest and, most of all, FUN!

It is a time where many aspects of Amateur Radio come together to highlight our many roles. While some will treat it as a contest, other groups use the opportunity to practice their emergency response capabilities. It is an excellent opportunity to demonstrate Amateur Radio to the organizations that Amateur Radio might serve in an emergency, as well as the general public. For many clubs, ARRL Field Day is one of the highlights of their annual calendar.

The contest part is simply to contact as many other stations as possible and to learn to operate our radio gear in abnormal situations and less than optimal conditions.

We use these same skills when we help with events such as marathons and bike-a-thons; fund-raisers such as walk-a-thons; celebrations such as parades; and exhibits at fairs, malls and museums — these are all large, preplanned, non-emergency activities.

But despite the development of very complex, modern communications systems — or maybe because they ARE so complex — ham radio has been called into action again and again to provide communications in crises when it really matters. Amateur Radio people (also called “hams”) are well known for our communications support in real disaster and post-disaster situations.

What is the ARRL?

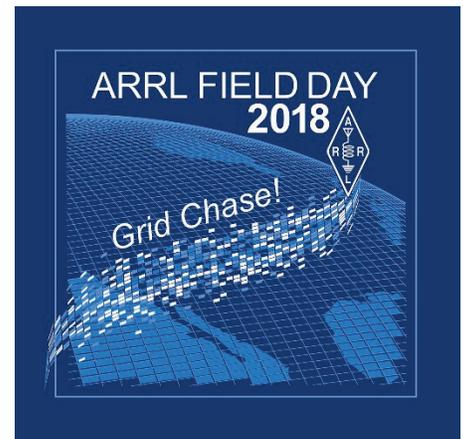
The American Radio Relay League is the national association for Amateur Radio in the USA, representing over 170,000 FCC-licensed Amateurs. The ARRL is the primary source of information about what is going on in ham radio. It provides books, news, support and information for individuals and clubs, special events, continuing education classes and other benefits for its members.

What is Amateur Radio

Often called “ham radio,” the Amateur Radio Service has been around for a century. In that time, it’s grown into a worldwide community of licensed operators using the airwaves with every conceivable means of communications technology. Its people range in age from youngsters to grandparents. Even rocket scientists and a rock star or two are in the ham ranks. Most, however, are just normal folks like you and me who enjoy learning and being able to transmit voice, data and pictures through the air to unusual places, both near and far, without depending on commercial systems.

The Amateur Radio frequencies are the last remaining place in the usable radio spectrum where you as an individual can develop and experiment with wireless communications. Hams not only can make and modify their equipment, but can create whole new ways to do things.

For More Information visit: www.arrl.org

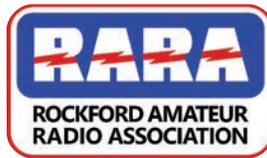


Updated: 2/2018

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!



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