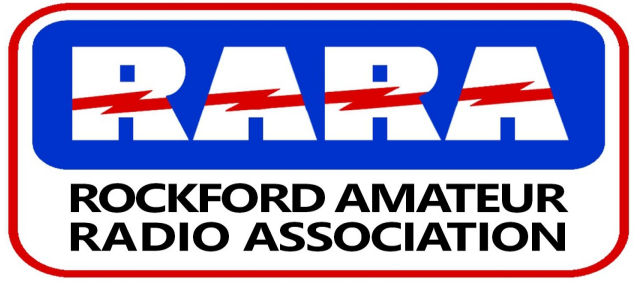


# HAMRAG

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.

## June 2021

## INSIDE THIS ISSUE

## Presidents Message

- President's Message - page 1
- History of Field Days - page 2
- More Field Days Info - page 3
- License Exam Info. — page 4
- Upcoming Events page 4
- Area NETS page 4
- RARA Members Form -page5

Dear Fellow Hams,

I don't know about you but June has always been my favorite month for Ham radio. It takes me back to my first Field day back in the late 1950's. At the time I was a member of the Fort Wayne Amateur Radio Club, and we had a lot of members. They had their own building and property including two or three towers and they had made arrangements to borrow the then brand new KWM- 2 Collins transceiver, and a couple of buddies of mine, and I were able to play with it all night long. I had no idea what I was doing, but I sure had fun. Not only was this a brand new rig, but it was the first transceiver that I had ever seen. This was the first time I saw a transmitter and a receiver integrated into one piece. Prior to that time the transmitters and receivers I had seen were two pieces big and heavy. On top of that I had never worked SSB. Single side band, though not new didn't hit the Ham bands until the middle to late 50's as I recall. Most receivers at the time really were not made to tune it in, and it sounded very much like Donald Duck. There was a lot of talk on the bands about ssb ruining ham radio with it's sound. You can still find a few purest with great AM sound on the air, and ssb really doesn't match the sound, but for communication AM will never match ssb. Who knows digital may some day take over the frequencies from ssb. It may even be a combination of the two modes, and it may even be better than either mode for communication and fidelity. I read something the other day that said there was more action with FT8 then Ssb on the bands. That reminds us that we need to keep an open mind to the new ways of doing things. Am lost out to SSB. The next battle was CW which lost out to digital. Over 60 years have past sine since AM took a back seat to SSB, but it is still in use today. Not many years have past since CW was taken off the test, much because digital was taking over, but CW is alive and well, and it is a great method of communication. Frankly, CW is now known by some as the first digital mode. It really doesn't matter what mode you like, because it is likely to be around for a while. Just remember to not be afraid to try something new, and don't forget to have fun with your radio what ever mode you try.

C U at Field Day  
73  
Larry AC9GO

PS If you are planning to be at Field Day drop a note to Bill [KC9OJP@comcast.net](mailto:KC9OJP@comcast.net) and let him know what time you would prefer to be on the air, so he knows when to expect you. If you don't know just show up and he can work you in when a time opens up. It doesn't matter what license you have we'll give you a chance to get on the air on the big bands.

LS

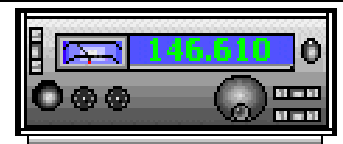
### NEXT MEETING

## June 11 7:00 PM

### Live

### On AIR

### 146.610 Repeater Or 147.195



# HISTORY OF ARRL FIELD DAY

The first ARRL Field Day was held on the second Saturday in June 1933. The winner of the contest was the W4PAW team who scored 1876 points. The initial event, organized by F. E Handy, was such a hit with the amateur radio community that it became an annual tradition, with 1942 through to 1945 being the only years that Field Day hasn't been held, due to World War II.

For many, the big draw of Field Day is the competition—a high-frequency dash to make contact with as many stations as possible. The rules state that if setup commences before the contest starts then participants have 24 hours to chase their contacts, whereas those who commenced set up as the contest started have 27 hours. In 1968 the rules were changed and it became mandatory for everyone to set up within the 27-hour timeframe, but the change proved unpopular and it was readjusted again in 1969 to the rules that are used today.

Each station will exchange information with other participating stations. For the North American Field Day, the exchange consists of the station [call sign](#); the name of the ARRL-recognized section from which the station is operating (called Grid Square); and a class designator which indicates the type of location (whether in a vehicle, outdoors, or in a home), the number of people operating and number of transmitters being used, plus information about the type of electrical power source connected to (conventional or emergency sources like batteries, solar, generator, wind, etc.). The event is now widely sponsored by the International Amateur Radio Union (IARU) and has begun to spread its wings overseas in many countries.

The contest portion of Field Day has two purposes: The primary purpose is to test the group's ability to plan operations that can be effective for an entire twenty-four-hour period, including operator endurance and adequate numbers of operators for a shift operation. The secondary purpose is to demonstrate the technical proficiency of the station that has been quickly constructed for the contacts: In theory, a better station will be capable of emergency operations in dire conditions; such a station will also be capable of making more contacts during the contest portion of Field Day. Point systems are structured to motivate emergency preparedness activities, such as designating a safety officer for the station or incorporating auxiliary power capabilities.

Although many amateur radio enthusiasts work hard to win the contest in their entry category, the social side of the event has grown over the years too. Camping and cookouts are commonplace, with those operating the radios in rotating shifts to keep the stations on the air.

Field Day is frequently used to attract significant publicity for amateur radio, and some clubs simultaneously demonstrate technologies including [single-sideband](#) voice, [Morse code](#), older and new digital modes alike (such as [RTTY](#), [PSK31](#), and [FT8](#), among others), and even two-way communication via [amateur radio satellite](#).

# Emergency preparedness

Field Day stresses emergency preparedness. Frequently, entire radio [clubs](#) get involved and assemble a portable radio station in a field or park. Some might use quickly deployable portable antennas while other might erect more elaborate [radio masts and towers](#) supporting several [antennas](#). [Generators](#) or [solar power](#) provide [electricity](#) to amateur radio [transceivers](#), which may be located in tents, cars, [recreational vehicles](#), or other portable shelters.

## Objective-

To contact as many stations as possible on the 160, 80, 40, 20, 15 and 10 Meter HF bands, as well as all bands 50 MHz and above, and to learn to operate in abnormal situations in less than optimal conditions.

Field Day is open to all amateurs in the areas covered by the ARRL/RAC Field Organizations and countries within IARU Region 2. DX stations residing in other regions may be contacted for credit, but are not eligible to submit entries.

Each claimed contact must include contemporaneous direct initiation by the operator on both sides of the contact. Initiation of a contact may be either locally or by remote.

Officially, field day in the US is an operating event and not a contest. However, it operates exactly like a contest, but without awards.

The competitive aspect of a Field Day operating event is to contact as many stations as possible in the given time period (twenty-four hours, during a weekend, if setup commences before the contest starts, or 27 hours if setup commences at contest start time) using the portable station. Each station will [exchange](#) information with other participating stations. For the North American Field Day, the exchange consists of the station [call sign](#), the name of the ARRL-recognized section from which the station is operating, and a class designator which indicates the number of transmitters concurrently used at the station and information about the type of electrical power source being used.

The contest portion of Field Day has two purposes. The primary purpose is to test the group's ability to plan operations that can be effective for an entire twenty-four-hour period, including operator endurance and adequate numbers of operators for a shift operation. The secondary portion is to demonstrate the technical proficiency of the station that has been hastily constructed for the purpose; in theory a better station will be capable of emergency operations in dire conditions. Such a station will also be capable of making more contacts during the contest portion of Field Day. Point systems are structured to motivate emergency preparedness activities, such as designating a safety officer for the station or incorporating auxiliary power capabilities.

The rules governing this activity are published by the sponsor of the particular Field Day exercise.

Sponsored by the ARRL and RAC (but organized primarily by the ARRL), Field Day is open to all Amateur Radio operators covered by these two IARU member organizations.

Join us on FACEBOOK for  
the latest info  
[https://www.facebook.com/  
groups/1542388942734826](https://www.facebook.com/groups/1542388942734826)



## 2021 RARA Officers and Board

### Officers:

President - Larry Schubert, AC9GO, 815-624-7772, [larry.schubert@gmail.com](mailto:larry.schubert@gmail.com)  
Vice President - Dan Hallstrom, KB9LOJ, 815-229-7526, [hallstrom@gmx.com](mailto:hallstrom@gmx.com)  
Secretary - Jeffrey Metters, KD9MEC, 815-670-5506, [jeffmetters@gmail.com](mailto:jeffmetters@gmail.com)  
Treasurer - James Curtis , 779-537-2233, KC9GOL, [jimhcurtis7818@yahoo.com](mailto:jimhcurtis7818@yahoo.com)  
Repeater Chairman - Kurt Eversole. KE9N, 815-389-2784, [kurt.eversole@gmail.com](mailto:kurt.eversole@gmail.com)

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

## Local Events and Information

### UPCOMING EVENTS

**June 11 2021** - On Live Radio 7pm - 146.610 or 147.195

Weekly Monday Night Net 7 pm —Tuesday Night Net - Thursday Night Net

**JUNE 26 -27 FIELD DAYS—**

### 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.

**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.

## AMATEUR RADIO EXAM NOTICE

Contact Brandon for more information as to the Freeport IL testing times and location.

Brandon J McGrew [bmacmagoo@hotmail.com](mailto:bmacmagoo@hotmail.com) There is also testing available in Janesville.

Contact [wi9fry@gmail.com](mailto:wi9fry@gmail.com) For mote info.

# \$10 RARA for the year 2021 New, Old, Retired

Name: .....Call Sign.....

Street address.....City.....State.....Zip.....

E-mail.....Best Phone.....

Can we release E-mail and phone to members only? Yes....No....

What things do you like to do with Ham radio? .....

.....

What do you want to do, but need more information to do it?.....

.....

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

.....

What can we as a club do better?.....

.....

Please fill out the and mail it along with \$10 to: Rockford Amateur Radio Association

PO Box 8465

Rockford, Illinois 61126