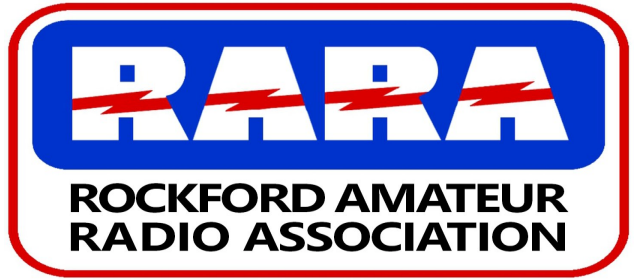


# HAMIRAG

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.

## August 2023

### INSIDE THIS ISSUE

President's Message - page 1
Local Events & Info. - page 2
Out of Date - page 3 & 4
Protecting our Freq. - page 5
Hamfest Info. - page 6 & 7
Solar Update - page 8
DX Operations - page 9
Membership Form - page 10

## Presidents Message

Hello Everyone,

At our August meeting we will be discussing plans for some RARA operating and club activities for the remainder of 2023. We would like your input, and also there will be a presentation to watch. Thank you to everyone who have contributed to RARA in their various ways, and lending their expertise to our hobby.

Protecting the frequencies allowed for the Amateur Radio Service is always something that comes up from time to time, and there is a proposal at the FCC which could cause interference to some of those frequencies. See more about this in the Hamrag. The ARRL is a strong advocate in the protection of those frequencies, so your support and membership to the ARRL helps us retain those allocations.

Congratulations to all of those who have recently passed their FCC exam or upgraded their license class. Our clubs, organizations, and future rely on you to get involved and keep ham radio alive.

73,  
Kurt Eversole—KE9N

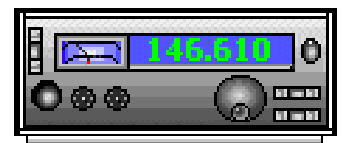
## NEXT MEETING

**FRIDAY**  
**August 11, 2023**  
**7:00pm**

**Located in the**  
**Foundation**  
**Room**

**Location:**  
**OSF St. Anthony**  
**Medical Center**  
**5666 East State Street**  
**Rockford, IL 61108**

*August is like the Sunday of summer*



## Local Events and Information

### UPCOMING EVENTS

August 11,2023 RARA Membership Meeting 7:00pm at OSF

August 23, 2023 RARA Board Meeting 7:00pm on Google Meet

### 2023 RARA Officers and Board

#### Officers:

President - Kurt Eversole, KE9N, 815-389-2784, [kurt.eversole@gmail.com](mailto:kurt.eversole@gmail.com)  
Vice President - Tom Shouler, N9VJU, 815-633-0089, [n9vju@comcast.net](mailto:n9vju@comcast.net)  
Secretary - Larry McFall, KD9HKX, 815-900-1820, [lpmcfall@charter.net](mailto:lpmcfall@charter.net)  
Treasurer - Gordon Seaman, KC9NEX, 815-262-0294, [kc9nex@gmail.com](mailto:kc9nex@gmail.com)

#### Directors:

Kevin Puckett, N9EGF, 815-218-1551, [krpuckett@gmail.com](mailto:krpuckett@gmail.com)  
Ron Callahan, N2RON, 608-289-0198, [ron.n2ron@gmail.com](mailto:ron.n2ron@gmail.com)  
Larry Lisle, K9KZT, 815-397-9595, [l.lisle@usa.net](mailto:l.lisle@usa.net)  
Repeater License Trustee - Gordon Seaman, KC9NEX, 815-262-0294, [kc9nex@gmail.com](mailto:kc9nex@gmail.com)  
Hamrag Editor/Repeater Chairman - Kurt Eversole, KE9N, 815-389-2784, [kurt.eversole@gmail.com](mailto:kurt.eversole@gmail.com)  
Webmaster - Position Open

### 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

**Thurs** - 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, pl127.3

**Mon. thru Friday** - 8:00am to 9:00am - Senile Net, 14.287 (HF USB)

## Out of Date

I'm Out of Date

by

Larry Schubert

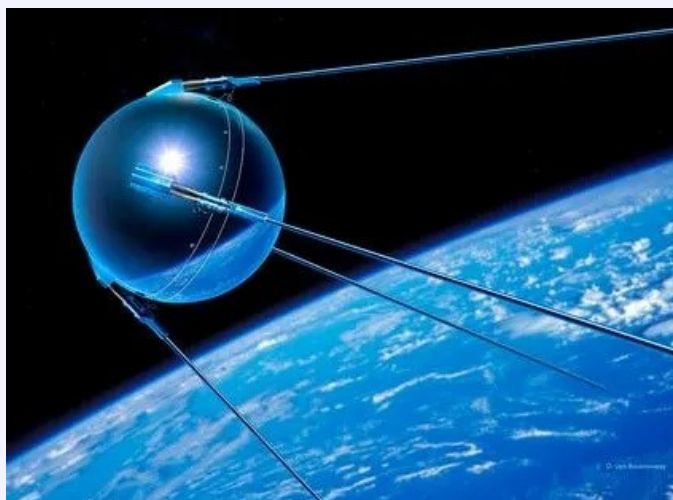
It finally happened. I have become out of date. While I have done my best over the years to stay up to date, slowly but surely I have become out of date in a world that has Artificial Intelligence and a whole host of online products that no one even dreamed about in my youth. I came to the realization just the other day shortly after I was talking with a fellow ham about our Technician license class about how much harder the first license test is today compared to the novice class license that we took as our first license back in the late 1950's. Larry, K9KZT and I both agreed that our test was much simpler and maybe we should have a simpler way to get the youth of today on the air.

That got me thinking about what we had on the test back then. Now granted, we had to know the morse code and be able to send and receive at five words per minute, but the secret is once you learn the morse code (cw) you are at about five words per minute. The test had to be administered by some one over 21 years of age, plus you had to have a licensed amateur above that grade give you the five word per minute code test. The novice license at that time was not renewable, and good for one year only. The privileges at that time covered cw on 80, 40, 15, and 10 meters as I remember it, and phone was on 2 meters. There were no questions about satellites, repeaters, space stations, or digital communications because those things did not exist. The only computers in the fifties were main frames that probably would have filled a good sized room at the time, and had less memory then a watch of today. I remember our grade school class hearing a radio broadcast of one of the first successful computers, it was demonstrated by playing maybe one line of "Mary had a little Lamb" one note at a time. That was the only thing it did in the demonstration. If it did anything else we didn't hear about it on that day.

Another thing I remember from my grade school days was one of our teachers saying that man would never get to the moon because we couldn't make a rocket powerful enough to brake through the earths gravity force. He must have really been surprised a few years later when Neal Armstrong took his famous "One step for man..." At that time I think there was only AM being used on two meters. SSB was just getting a foothold on HF, and many a verbal battle was taking place on the bands between the AMer's and the Donald Duckers as the ssb guys were sometimes refereed to at the time.

Sputnik had not yet been launched by the USSR. And when it was, all hell broke out on how could the US let the Russians beat us. All kinds of speculation was had on the beeps that the satellite was making, and what they meant. I don't remember it having any kind of real meaning except to let the world know it was there.

*(continued)*





## Out of Date

The point to this is this. We have reached a point where the technician license of today is probably closer to the general class license of the fifties, then the first license of that time which was a novice class license. We need to bring back the novice class license, so that the young people of today can get an easier start in this great hobby of ours. The FCC has given out a couple of license's for radios that do little or nothing for communication of the future.

Ham radio has a history of providing communications to the nation in times of disaster. In times of war hams have stood up to help our armed forces provide communication for our troops. In some ways we were more visible in the past, because today a number of things that we developed have been incorporated into a lot of modern communication equipment. It was ham radio that put satellites in orbit for communication. When NASA's communication broke down and they lost contact with the astronauts, it was ham radio that established communication, and contacted the space center. Hurricanes, tornadoes, earthquakes, 9/11, the Boston marathon bombing and almost anything where millions of people are trying to find their loved ones, when major communications broke down, it is amateur radio that steps up and gets the information through when all else fails.

We were once the only communication to ships at sea. Today when some of the smaller craft loses contact because of problems at sea, it is ham radio that comes to the rescue. When wild fires overwhelm, an area, ham radio gets the word out, and is there any other hobby that will inspire our young people to take up electronics not only as a hobby, but as their life's work to invent the next widget that will make life better for everyone. The point is ham radio is more than just a hobby, it's the grease that makes electronics a hobby that turns into a vocation that makes life better for everyone. The age of amateur radio operators is old because the first license is a hard one, and I believe that serious thought should be given to bring back the novice license, and get more people into this hobby. Tell me what you think, after all I'm out of date.

I would be remiss if I didn't take this chance to congratulate Tony, and my XYL, Verna for passing their Technician license this past Saturday. Both of them did very well on the test and you should be hearing them on the air soon. Hope to have news soon on some others working hard on the test as well.

73, Larry, AC9GO



## Protecting our Frequencies

### ARRL Files Comments Against "Seriously Flawed" Shortwave Rules Petition

ARRL, as part of its mission to protect Amateur Radio, has filed [comments against a proposal](#) that would introduce high-power digital communications to the shortwave spectrum that in many instances is immediately adjacent to the Amateur HF bands.

The "Shortwave Modernization Coalition" (SMC), which represents certain high-frequency stock trading interests, filed [the petition](#) with the Federal Communications Commission (FCC).

**(Previous coverage can be found on [ARRL News](#).)** ARRL responded on behalf of its members and the 760,000 licensees of the Amateur Radio Service in the US.

The ARRL Laboratory performed a detailed technical analysis over several months to determine if the proposed rules would affect operations on the bands allocated to Radio Amateurs that are inter-mixed with the Part 90 bands in the spectrum in question. ARRL's analysis determined that, if the proposed rules are adopted, the new operations inevitably will cause significant harmful interference to many users of adjacent and nearby spectrum, including Amateur Radio licensees. Ed Hare, W1RFI, a 37-year veteran of the ARRL Lab and internationally recognized expert on radio frequency interference, was the principal investigator on the study. Hare concluded the petition should not be granted. "This petition seeks to put 50 kHz wide, 20,000-watt signals immediately next to seven different amateur bands with weaker protections against interference than required in other services," said Hare. In its formal opposition, ARRL stated, "That destructive interference would result if operations commenced using anything close to the proposed maximum levels."

ARRL's filed comments highlight flawed analysis and incomplete data submitted by the petitioners. It noted the petitioners "...significantly understate the harmful interference that is not just likely, but certain, if the rules proposed by SMC are adopted as proposed. It is noteworthy that SMC's proposed rules would provide less protection than the much-lower power amateur radio transmitters are required to provide Part 90 receivers." ARRL's opposition also noted that there was no reported tests conducted with Amateur or other affected stations, but referenced a spectrum capture in the Comments filed with the Dayton Group that showed actual interference into the Amateur 20-meter band from one of the High Frequency Trading experimental stations.

Part 90 HF rules currently authorize a maximum signal bandwidth equal to a voice communications channel, at up to 1000 W peak envelope power (PEP). The petition seeks multiplication of signal width, greater transmitted power, and weaker rules that protect users of adjacent spectrum. ARRL's comments expose the likely fallout:

"Incredibly, notwithstanding the significant increase in potential interference that would result from using digital schemes with 50 kHz bandwidths and 20,000 watts of power, SMC also proposes to substantially lessen the protections required to protect adjacent and neighboring licensees. SMC proposes [out-of-band emissions] limits that offer less protection than the existing Part 90 limits and would actually permit no attenuation (0 dB) at the edge of adjacent allocations, many of which are bands allocated to and heavily used in the Amateur Radio Service. Consistent with lessening protections while increasing the potential for harmful interference, SMC also proposes a lower limit for spurious emissions. SMC would reduce the existing protection of -73 dB for the applicable 1000-watt power limit to just -50 dB protection for their proposed 20,000-watt limit. Due to the much wider 50 kHz proposed bandwidth, the resulting interference would penetrate deep into the adjacent Amateur bands."

For more information you can watch this YouTube video:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=8fG2Uftd61A>



# 2023 Radio Expo

## Northern Illinois' Largest Hamfest

### Sunday

### September 24th, 2023

Dealers!  
Radios!  
Computers!  
Electronics!  
Raffles!

Boone County Fairgrounds  
8791 IL-76, Belvidere, IL 61008

Indoor Market 8am-3pm  
Flea Market 6am-3pm  
Breakfast - Lunch  
Bring The Family  
Hourly Drawings

**Talk-In Repeaters**

146.760 - 107.2 CFMC



**VEC Testing 9am-Noon**

RV's or Motor Homes  
Camping  
Water-Electric \$45



#### MAKING HAM RADIO FUN

Advance Tickets - \$8.00 - At the Gate - \$10.00 - Kids under 12 Free Tickets required with Tables

\_\_\_\_\_ x \$8 = \_\_\_\_\_

Name & Call \_\_\_\_\_ # of Tickets

\_\_\_\_\_ x \$18 = \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_ # All tables

City, State, Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_ Email \_\_\_\_\_ \$10.00 - Inside Electric \_\_\_\_\_ Outside Electric \_\_\_\_\_

For event questions: Call 773-614-4733  
Email [wa9orc@gmail.com](mailto:wa9orc@gmail.com)

Make Check payable to:  
Chicago FM Club  
3619 S. 54TH CT.  
CICERO, IL. 60804  
Total \_\_\_\_\_

Flyer on website <http://www.chicagofmclub.org>

CFMC reserves the right to make any necessary changes required

Vendor setup is Saturday, September 23RD from 9:00 AM - 4:00 PM with security overnight.



## Hamfest Information

### HRO Superfest, ARRL Wisconsin State Convention

**Start Date:** 09/22/2023    **End Date:** 09/23/2023

**Location:** Ham Radio Outlet Milwaukee  
5710 W. Good Hope Rd.  
Milwaukee, WI 53201

**Sponsor:** Ham Radio Outlet

**Type:** ARRL Convention

**Talk-In:** 145.130 127.3 pl

**Public Contact:** Tom Pachner , W9TJP  
5710 W. Good Hope Rd. Milwaukee, WI  
53223

**Phone:** 414-358-0333

**Email:** [milwaukee@hamradio.com](mailto:milwaukee@hamradio.com)



## ORC 17<sup>th</sup> Annual Regional Fall Swapfest



Test Equipment, Radios, Antennas, Accessories, Tools, Hobby Stuff & More

***Saturday, September 9<sup>th</sup>, 2023***

Firemen's Park (W65 N796) on Washington Avenue in Cedarburg WI 53012  
**N 43° 18.283' W 087° 59.500'**

**Setup and general admission from 6am to noon – Door prizes**  
**Refreshments available inside the exhibit hall**  
**\$5 admission at the gate – buyers and sellers – 12 & under free**  
***Just park on the grounds and sell your stuff or just browse & buy their stuff***

Inside tables \$10 as available (5 for \$40) – ARRL and any Commercial Vendors are typically inside.



Go to  
[www.ozaukeeradioclub.org](http://www.ozaukeeradioclub.org) or  
[Facebook.com/orcwi](https://www.facebook.com/orcwi)  
For more information call  
262-377-6945 (h) (W9IPR)  
262-844-6331 (c)  
Talk-in @ 146.97 PL

## The K7RA Solar Update

The Australian Space Weather Forecasting Centre issued a geomagnetic disturbance warning at 0233 UTC on August 3.

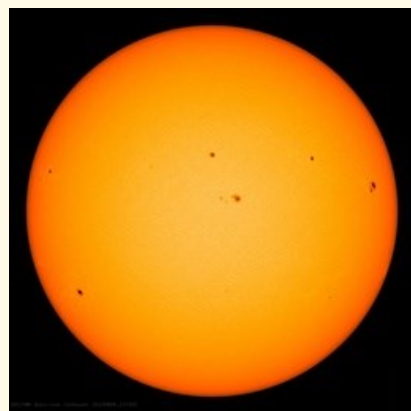
"Two recent coronal mass ejections (CMEs) are expected to impact Earth on UT day 05-Aug, with the second possibly arriving early 06-Aug. G0-G1 geomagnetic conditions may be expected on 05-Aug, with a chance for isolated periods of G2 towards the end of the UT day on 05-Aug. Geomagnetic storm conditions may persist over 06-Aug."

Solar activity was up during this reporting week, July 27 through August 2. Average daily sunspot numbers increased from 128.1 to 154.3, but average daily solar flux was about the same as last week, moving just from 172.2 to 173.

Geomagnetic indicators were quiet, with average daily planetary A index shifting from 11 to 8.3, while middle latitude numbers went from 11.1 to 9.3.

Predicted solar flux is 160 on August 4-5, 162 on August 6, 164 on August 7-8, 162 and 160 on August 9-10, 168 on August 11-12, 170 on August 13-16, 172 on August 17-18, then 170 and 168 on August 19-20, 170 on August 21-22, 172 on August 23, and 170 on August 24-27, then 165 on August 28-31, then 168, 170, 168, 165, 168, and 165 on September 1-6, 168 on September 7-8, and 170 on September 9-12.

Predicted planetary A index 15, 26, 15 and 8 on August 4-7, 5 on August 8-10, 8 on August 11-12, 5 on August 13-25, then 12 and 10 on August 26-27, and 5 on August 28-31, 12 and 10 on September 1-2, 5 on September 3-5, 10 on September 6, 8 on September 7-8, and 5 on September 9-17.



### Editors Note

If you would like to have something published, please call me, or email me at [kurt.eversole@gmail.com](mailto:kurt.eversole@gmail.com)

**Cut-off for the September 2023 Hamrag will be Thursday, August 31, 2023**

Kurt - KE9N, Editor

### FRIDAY MORNING BREAKFAST

Meets every Friday morning from 8:00 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 Spring Garden Family Restaurant"***

***4820 N. 2nd Street  
Loves Park, IL 61111***





## 5X3K Uganda

5X3K Team will be active from Uganda, September 28 - October 8, 2023.  
Team - Petr OK1BOA, Petr OK1FCJ, David OK6DJ.  
They will operate on 160 - 10m, CW, SSB, FT8, RTTY.  
QSL via OK6DJ, LOTW, ClubLog OQRS.



## SV5/HB9OAU Karpathos Island

Claudio, HB9OAU will be active from Karpathos Island, IOTA EU-001, September 5-21, 2023 as SV5/HB9OAU.  
He will operate on 80 - 10m SSB, CW, RTTY, FT8.  
QSL via home call.  
For direct QSL:  
Claudio Tiziani Via Ressiga 2A CH - 6983  
MAGLIASO, SWITZERLAND.

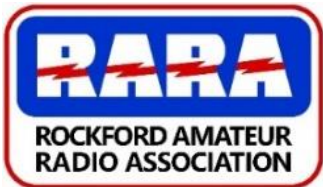


## VK9LAA Lord Howe Island

VK9LAA Team will be active from Lord Howe Island, IOTA OC - 004, September 20 - October 4, 2023.  
Team - W7YAQ, K7AR.  
They will operate on 160 - 6m Bands, including activity in CQ WW DX RTTY Contest.  
QSL via W7YAQ, LOTW, ClubLog OQRS.

Deservedly called the last corner of Paradise on Earth, Lord Howe Island is located 600 kilometres east of mainland Australia.





website: [w9axd.org](http://w9axd.org)  
email: [w9axdrara@gmail.com](mailto:w9axdrara@gmail.com)

# 2023 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](mailto: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](mailto: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.