

HAM RAG



RARA Mission Statement

A member association with common interest of public service to the community through Amateur Radio

PRESIDENT'S CORNER

OTW

On The Waterfront 2008 is history. Steve Thorne – K9LLI and Rich Ludwig – K9PK did a fantastic job for the club this year. Steve had the job of recruiting members to volunteer for the event and was the Supervisor for Friday. Rich volunteered for the Saturday Supervisor's position without being asked and then worked as assistant supervisor Sunday afternoon and evening. Now that is club support! Then there is Gordon Seaman – KC9NEX, he and his wife put in two shifts on Friday and then showed up to work a third shift on Sunday. Kurt Eversole – KE9N put in two shifts on Friday. Gene Stankiewicz – KA9BOD, put in a shift on Saturday and then brought his wife and son to work with him on his second shift. A list of those that participated in this event is listed in this Ham Rag. Check out the members and many non-members that worked for you, making your club a financial success this year. To each and every one that participated in this event, THANK YOU!

JOTA

Gene Stankiewicz – KA9BOD, is putting together this year's Amateur Radio presentation to the local Boy/Girl Scouts, Jamboree on the Air 2008. The Scouts are invited to Alpine Park, Shelter #1 to talk to other Scouts via Amateur Radio. Our members will provide a low band station, PSK-31, 2 & 440, and ARES presentation. Information will be available on the Radio Merit Badge as well as information on getting a Ham license. If you would like to be involved with this October event, contact Gene.

RARA Meeting

Chuck Ingle's - AB9KA, son Chad, will be our guest speaker this month. The topic is: *Continuously Operating Reference Stations (CORS) GPS Networks*. For complete information on the presentation, please read the full description on the club website: www.w9axd.org. Click on the big blue "Meeting Details" button on the front page. I am looking forward to this presentation.

The RARA meeting room has been changed to the Foundation room this month. Take the elevator in the OSF Lobby down one level and search out the Foundation Room. Hope to see you all at the meeting, Friday night, September 12, 2008, at 7:00 pm, at OSF, Foundation room, lower level!

73 & Good DX,
Paul - K9RNR

September 2008

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NEXT MEETING

Friday

September 12, 2008

LOCATION

Foundation Room
St. Anthony Hospital
5666 E. State Street
Rockford, IL

PROGRAM

Chad Ingle, son of Chuck Ingle, AB9KA, will speak on Continuously Operating Reference Stations (COR) GPS Network

Rockford Amateur Radio Assoc.

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

CONTINUOUSLY OPERATING REFERENCE STATION (COR) NETWORK

Every state in the U.S. has been awarded funds from the National Geodetic Survey (NGS) organization, a sub-organization of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA), to build a Continuously Operating Reference Station (CORS) Network. The NGS Height Modernization Initiative to gather precise vertical measurements in real-time to monitor all kinds of activities on the Earth, which aide respective affected organizations, is driving this development. Each state is in a different stage in the development of this system. Some are state-wide and fully operational and some are just starting or only have a partial network available. These new CORS GPS Networks do more than calculate height in real-time, they also decrease the error in real-time GPS positioning to provide an accuracy of less than 2 centimeters at any time.

The goal of this presentation is to familiarize the audience with the inner workings of how a CORS GPS Network accomplishes this accuracy. We will begin with an overview of basic GPS technology as a starting point and then move into understanding the new GPS technology that makes this possible such as Differential GPS and Inverted Differential GPS. Finally, we will discuss the concept of the Virtual Reference Station technology that now works in conjunction with Inverted Differential GPS which is the type of system the Wisconsin Department of Transportation has just implemented on July 15, 2008. We'll also discuss some applications of this system if time allows.

Chad Ingle is an IS Technical Services Specialist for the Wisconsin Department of Transportation. He primarily works on server systems administration with technologies such as Windows Server 2003/2008, IBM Director Server, IpSwitch WhatsUP Network Monitoring Tool, Server Build and Maintenance Automation, Website Development (PHP, ASP), IBM Storage Area Networks and Storage Volume Controllers, and recently developed the Wisconsin CORS Network (WISCORS).

Editor's QRM

On August 9th Winnebago County ARES provided communications for the State Street Mile. This is a fun series of races that can be fast paced and fun to watch. Those radio operators who provided communications were: Gorden, KC9NEX, Alvin, KC9GIO, Eric, N9MCS, Don, W9DRR, Al, KD9CA, John, KC9IED, Shari, N9SH and Gene, N9MXQ. We reported the numbers and times of the first three runners in each race. It is sometimes very difficult to get the lead runner's number at the quarter and half mile markers because they go by so fast.

The RARA Picnic was held on August 10th and it was very well attended. The food was very good, as it always is. Mike (AB9AY) and Judy Oberg did a great job and the chicken was terrific. It was good to see some old friends and to meet some new ones. On behalf of the RARA Board and the membership I would like to thank Mike and Judy for a job well done.

On page three you will find the nomination form for Ham of the Year. If you would like to nominate a club member for this award be sure to fill it out and give the form to KA9BOD.

On September 13 and 14 the Chicago FM Club's Radio Expo will be held at the Boone County Fairgrounds. This year's Expo will have professional wrestling on Saturday.

On the Waterfront is over and the stats can be found on page four. This is always a lot fun to work and after your shift you can always go see the rest of the festival. The money we earn for the club isn't bad either.

73,

Shari, N9SH

Rockford Amateur Radio Assoc.

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

HAM OF THE YEAR---2008 NOMINATION

The Ham of the Year is an honor that is presented to the R.A.R.A. member who has contributed the most to the club and to amateur radio in general during the year. This year the selection will be made by a committee established to evaluate the nominations of deserving candidates from those submitted by club members.

Your nominee should be chosen using two basic criteria: The nominee must be a RARA member and should have performed exemplary service for amateur radio during the year 2008.

We encourage you to take a few minutes to fill out the form below, or a facsimile, completing all of the requested information. Nominations may be mailed or emailed to KA9BOD at the address below or handed to me at the next club meeting. All nominations must be received by December 12, 2008. They will remain confidential. Your participation and early response will be appreciated.

Mail or email nominations to: _____nd
Gene Stankiewicz, KA9BOD
3531 Cross St.
Rockford, IL 61108
ka9bod@arrrl.net

Nominee _____

Call _____

I nominate the above person for the RARA Ham of the Year 2008 - award for the following reasons:

Signed _____

Call _____

On The Water Front 2008 Recap

| Name | Member | Shifts |
|-------------------|--------|-----------------------------------|
| Steve Thorne | Y | Supervisor |
| Rich Ludwig | Y | Supervisor & Assistant Supervisor |
| Paul Franklin | Y | Supervisor & Assistant Supervisor |
| Judi Franklin | N | 2 |
| Shari Harlan | Y | 1 |
| Kurt Eversole | Y | 2 |
| Gorden Seaman | Y | 3 |
| Dennies Seaman | N | 3 |
| Megan Thorne | N | 2 |
| Robert Larson | Y | 1 |
| Dan Hunt | Y | 1 |
| Linda Hunt | Y | 1 |
| Wendy Owano | N | 1 |
| Dick Fleming | Y | 1 |
| Gene Stankiewicz | Y | 2 |
| Joyce Stankiewicz | N | 1 |
| Peter Stankiewicz | N | 1 |
| Dale Mather | Y | 1 |
| Nancy Mather | Y | 1 |
| Bill Peters | N | 1 |
| Greg Kuczek | Y | 1 |
| Carol Kuczek | N | 1 |
| Carl Cacciatore | Y | 1 |
| Mary Cacciatore | N | 1 |
| Marlene H | N | 1 |
| Kirk Johnson | Y | 1 |
| Diane Johnson | N | 1 |

The list above shows the members and non-members that participated in this year's fund raising event. There were 3 club members that performed the function of supervisors. 13 of 56 members worked at least one shift. 11 non-members worked on behalf of the club for one shift and 6 members & non-members worked more than one shift.

On behalf of the Rockford Amateur Radio Association, those of you that gave of your time, talent and effort, THANK YOU for your support for the club! As you can see, we could not have done it without your help! Thank you!

Rockford Amateur Radio Assoc.

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

E-mails Asking for Personal Information Not from ARRL

The ARRL has received several reports from ARRL members with arrl.net e-mail accounts who have recently been contacted via e-mail asking for personal information, such as user names and passwords. Please be assured that these e-mails are fraudulent attempts at "phishing" and did not originate from ARRL. According to ARRL information Technology Manager Don Durand, "This is a very crude attempt at phishing, using an easily determined spoof of the originating/return address. There is never a time when we would ask via mass e-mail for user names and passwords of arrl.net users. There is simply no need to ever do so." If you receive an e-mail asking for personal information and it looks like it originated from ARRL, please do not respond, just delete it.

FOR SALE

QST's & ARRL Handbooks to a good home – FREE –

QST's 1992, 1997 thru 2003. ARRL Handbooks 1965, 1981, 1972 and 1985.

Contact Gene, ka9bod 815-226-1806 or email: ka9bod@arrl.net

VK3YNG Fox Hunt Sniffer and tape measure beam--\$150.00

Contact WB9MMM or N9SH at 815-398-2683

Hungry for breakfast? On Friday mornings a group of hams meet at the Red Flame on South Alpine Road at 8 AM for breakfast and conversation. Why not try and join in the fun and meet some old friends and make new ones?

HAM RADIO CLASSES TO BE HELD AT ROCK VALLEY

RARA will be holding a Tech class on October 25th and November 1st. The General class will be November 15th and 22nd. Registration will be through Rock Valley College Adult Continuing Education.

2008 RARA OFFICERS and BOARD

President--Paul Franklin, K9RNR, 815-298-2251

Vice President--

Gene Harlan, WB9MMM, 815-398-2683

Secretary

Gene Stankiewicz, KA9BOD, 815-226-1806

Treasurer--Rich Ludwig, K9PK, 815-547-6435

Directors:

Robert Larson, KC9ICH, 815-226-1875

Chuck Derwent, K9SAN, 815-519-0848

Mike Oberg, AB9AY, 815-399-0961

Chuck Ingle, AB9KA, 815-623-3623

Repeater Chairman:

Herb Eckstein, K9AMJ, 815-399-6822

Ham Rag Editor:

Shari Harlan, N9SH, 815-398-2683

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-Cable Channel 57

146.805 - ENC/DEC pl 114.8 K9AMJ

224.4400 - ENC/DEC pl 118.8 K9AMJ

147.255 + ENC/DEC pl 114.8 WX9MCS

444.725 + pl 118.8 WX9MCS
Linked to FISHFAR

Rockford Amateur Radio Assoc.

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AMATEUR RADIO EXAM NOTICE

August 16th there were 3 applicants resulting in 3 upgrade

Upgrades

Rockie Belken, KC9NZU, General

David Stein, KC9NVP, General

Charles Voyles, KB9SWF, Extra

Northern Illinois Volunteer Examiners will be holding the next Amateur Radio exam session in Rockford, IL on Saturday, September 20, 2008.

Location:

St. Anthony Hospital

5666 E. State Street

Rockford, IL

Exams will be held in the St Francis Room (just right of the front entrance after you enter).

Check-in is from 9:00 AM til 10:30 AM.

What You Need To Bring To A W5YI-VEC Session

1. Your original Amateur License (unexpired or within the 2 year grace period) and a copy to attach to the paperwork.
2. Any valid CSCE that you are using for credit. Again the VE's have to see the original and have a copy to attach to the paperwork.
3. Two forms of Identification with your signature on them. One must be a picture ID (drivers license, passport, school ID, library card, credit card, etc.)
4. Test Fee \$14.00 cash or check. (please make checks payable to W5YI-VEC)

Contact Information

Randy Scott, W9HL

W9HL@arrl.net

815-877-4328

JOTA—Jamboree on the Air 2008

Saturday, October 18, 2008

Alpine Park Shelter #1

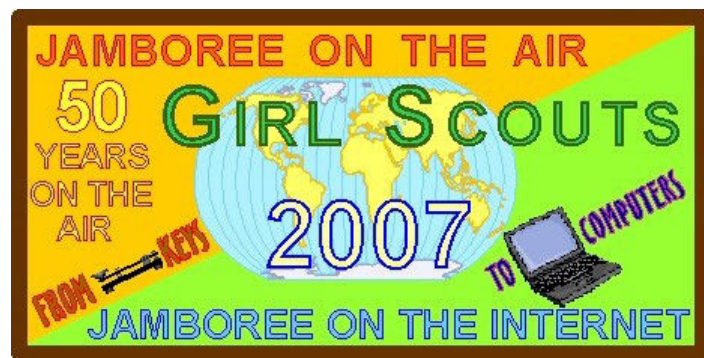
10 AM to 4 PM

JOTA is an annual event in which Scouts and Guides all over the world speak to each other by means of Amateur Radio contacts, (Ham Radio). Scouting experiences are exchanged and ideas are shared, via the radio waves.

The Rockford Amateur Radio Association will have equipment available to make contact with other scouts around the country and will have information and demonstrate several aspects of our hobby.

All Scouts, their leaders and parents are welcome to this event.

40 meter station (Voice)
PSK31 station on 20 meters (Computer)
2 Meter / 70 Centimeter station (Voice)
ARES information table
(Amateur Radio Emergency Service)
Training and Information table
Display of assorted equipment
??? Fox hunting demonstration ???
??? APRS demonstration (Computer)???
(Automatic Position Reporting System)
??? Amateur TV (Voice & Video)???



Rockford Amateur Radio Assoc.

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



P.O. Box 8465, Rockford, IL 61126

Email shari@hampubs.com

Web: www.w9axd.org

NETS

Monday 8 PM 2 Meter 146.610 - 114.8

Thursday 7 PM ARES 147.255 + 114.8

Thursday 8 PM SATERN 146.61 - 114.8

September 2008

ROCKFORD AMATEUR RADIO ASSOCIATION MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

Single Adult: \$25.00 Adult w/Family: \$30.00

Single Senior: \$15.00 Senior w/Family: \$20.00

Student: \$15.00

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

Ham Rag Via USPS: \$12.00 extra

Name _____ Call Sign _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Home Phone _____ Work Phone _____

Email _____

Renewal _____ New _____ Retired _____

Radio Interests _____

_____ ARRL _____

Other Interests _____