

HAM RAG



Visit our website for more club and area ham information
In the Rockford area at <http://www.w9axd.org>

RARA Mission Statement

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

Everyone is doing a great job with the Monday Night Net.

It is time to put together another net control schedule. Let me know if anyone has a conflict with your date and we can adjust the schedule.

If anyone else would like to be included on the schedule, let me know. There is always room for one more. It will help hone your operating skills.

August 05 - Steve Twigg — W9SWT

August 12 - Doug Abrahamson — KC9SDO

August 19 - Scott Francis — KG9SF

August 26 - Kurt Eversole — KE9N

September 02 - Jim Holich — AB9SX

September 09 - Tom Shouler - N9VJU

See you at the meeting.

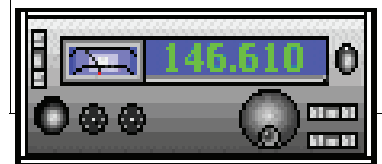
73

Doug Abrahamson
815-979-0329

August 2013

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NEXT MEETING

FRIDAY
August 9, 2013

Location:
Foundation Room

Saint Anthony OSF
5666 East State Street
Rockford, Illinois

Program:
Mobile Radio
Installation

Rich Range, KB9SFG
Kurt Eversole, KE9N

Some Interesting Web Sites

Just a reminder... The ARRL Contest Update online newsletter is an excellent source of non-contest information of general interest to all hams. Don't let the word "Contest" put you off. This month's issue discusses how to correct bent tower legs and out-of-round tower leg ends. Also tips using 75 ohm coax (CATV) in 50 ohm situations. I'm definitely not a contester, but I look forward to reading this publication every month. Go to the ARRL website, <http://www.arrl.org/the-arrrl-contest-update> to learn how to subscribe. No cost to ARRL members, I'm not sure about non-members.
John Olson, W9JGO

If you would like to have great radio history stories and other ham radio articles of the CW variety delivered to your computer each month, subscribe to the K9YA Telegraph newsletter. This is one I really look forward to reading. Subscribe (free) at <http://k9ya.org/> The info, along with sample issues, is available on the front page at this website. You all know I'm not a CW guy, but I find this one great reading!
John Olson, W9JGO

AREA Repeaters

146.610 -	ENC/DEC pl 114.8	W9AXD
147.000 +	ENC/DEC pl 114.8	W9AXD
ATV input 1250 Mhz/ 434 Mhz		W9ATN
	output 421.25 Mhz	
146.805 -	ENC/DEC pl 114.8	K9AMJ
224.440 -	ENC/DEC pl 118.8	K9AMJ
147.255 +	ENC/DEC pl 114.8	WX9MCS
444.725 +	ENC/DEC pl 107.2	WX9MCS
	Linked to FISHFAR	

2013 RARA Officers and Board

Officers:

President - Doug Abrahamson, KC9SDO, 815-979-0329
Vice President - Robert Larson, KC9ICH, 815-540-0309
Secretary - Jim Holich, AB9SX, 779-552-8796
Treasurer - Shannon Larson, KC9QBC, 815-540-0309

Directors:

Kurt Eversole, KE9N 815-389-2784
Richard H. Range WB9SFG— 630-697-1344
Steve Miles— KC9WBH

Web Master - Robert Larson, KC9ICH, 815-540-0309
Ham Rag Editor - Jim Holich, AB9SX, 779-552-8796
Repeater Chairman - Richard Range, WB9SFG 630-697-1344

From the Secretary

Secretary's Notes for the RARA Jul 10, 2013 meeting

The meeting was called to order by President Doug Abrahamson, KC9SDO, at 7:08 PM. The meeting opened with introductions, followed by a reading of the secretary's report for June 08, 2013. A motion to accept the report as read was made by Kurt Eversole; KE9N. The motion was carried. The treasurer's report was read by Treasurer Shannon Larson, KC9QBC. A motion to accept the report as read was made by Kurt Eversole, KE9N. The motion was carried.

A call for old business was made. An update for the Midway village project was given. Some woodwork is yet to be done. We will be ready to install the system for the fall season, 2013. Aven report on the 2013 Field day was given by Kurt Eversole; KE9N. A small piece was presented by WREX, Channel 13 on the 10 p.m. news.

New business topics were the report from the repeater committee chairman Rich Range, WB9SFG. The move to the second tower at the Hospital for the 147.000 repeater was discussed. Kurt Eversole, KE9N suggested a workday to repair a SteppIR antenna from an estate. The antenna would then be sold, and the proceeds used to purchase the equipment. The completion is needs to be done before the Belvidere Hamfest.

Dave Bond W9MG won the 50/50 drawing and donated his part of the proceeds to the Club Treasury. Thank you Dave.

After a short pause for socializing, a presentation on Fox Hunting was made. It seemed to have wide acceptance.

At 8:45 PM a motion was made by Jim Holich AB9SX to close the meeting. It was seconded by Ron Callahan N9SZV and the motion was carried.

Respectfully submitted by Jim Holich, AB9SX

AMATEUR RADIO EXAM NOTICE

July 20th there were 3 new licensees. Congratulations to:

New:

James P Parkhurst, Technician

Robert A Schoenberg, Technician

Jeffery A Stefanski, Technician

Thanks to Jim Holich AB9SX, Steve Twigg W9SWT, David Stein KC9NVP and Rich Range WB9SFG for volunteering their time.

Amateur Radio exams are held the 3rd Saturday of every month in Rockford IL. The next session is 9AM August 17, 2013. Walk-ins welcome. Check-in is from 9AM-10:30AM. We require two signature ID's and one photo. If you are a licensed Amateur Radio operator bring your current license and a copy. If you are using a CSCE for an element 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).

Rusty Cordell WB9QYV

The K7RA Solar Report

Propagation Forecast Bulletin 31 ARLP031

From Tad Cook, K7RA

Seattle, WA August 2, 2013

To all radio amateurs

The weekly averages of daily sunspot numbers and solar flux barely changed at all compared to the previous week. Average daily sunspot numbers went from 73.4 to 79.6, while average daily solar flux decreased from 110.6 to 109.7.

The weak peak of this solar cycle continues. We are moving toward the fall season, which is always seasonally better than summer for HF propagation. Let's hope for a rise in solar activity to complement the seasonal change.

The latest prediction from NOAA/USAF for the near term has solar flux at 115 on August 2-3, 110 on August 4-6, then 115, 120 and 115 on August 7-9, 105 on August 10-12, 100 on August 13, 105 on August 14-18, 100 on August 19-24, and 125 on August 25. Flux values hit a minimum around 100 on September 3-4, and rise to a peak of 135 on September 11-12.

Expected planetary A index is 8, 12 and 8 on August 2-4, 5 on August 5-8, 8 on August 9-10, 5 on August 11-20, then 10, 15 and 10 on August 21-23, 5 on August 24-26, 10 on August 27, 15 on August 28-31, 8 on September 1, and 5 after September 1.

Petr Kolman, OK1MGW presents a weekly geomagnetic prediction from the Czech Propagation Interest Group. He predicts active to disturbed conditions for today, August 2, quiet to active August 3, quiet to unsettled August 4, mostly quiet August 5, quiet to unsettled August 6-7, mostly quiet August 8-11, quiet August 12-13, quiet to active August 14-15, quiet to unsettled August 16-18, mostly quiet August 19-20, quiet to active August 21-22, and mostly quiet August 23-24. Petr says that growth in the solar wind may cause remarkable changes to the magnetosphere and ionosphere on August 2-3 and 14-16.

NASA released their monthly solar cycle prediction, and there is no change from last month. You can read it at <http://solarscience.msfc.nasa.gov/predict.shtml>.

At the beginning of each month we take a look at the latest numbers from our 3-month moving average of daily sunspot numbers. We do not see any upward trend. We see two peaks, one toward the end of 2011 and another smaller peak this spring. In 2011, the 3 month periods centered on October and November had average daily sunspot numbers of 118.8 and 118.6. This spring the 3-month periods centered on April and May had averages at 106.4 each. Could these be the double-peaks of solar activity that some have predicted for this sunspot cycle?

The K7RA Solar Report

The 3-month moving averages of daily sunspot numbers centered on January through June 2013 were 73.6, 80.7, 85.2, 106.4, 106.4, and 97.5. Just to clarify, the 3-month period centered on June includes sunspot numbers for all of the 92 days from May 1 through July 31. The sum is 8,970. Divide that total by 92, and the result is exactly 97.5.

Jon Pollock, K0ZN of DeSoto, Kansas reported 17 meter observations in last week's bulletin ARLP030, and this week has another report. He wrote, "I won't keep reporting this, but I thought this was again instructive since I am seeing this so frequently lately. On Friday, July 26 I was up late and again decided to give 17 meters a try at Midnight CST. Again 17 meters was very quiet, no signals at all. i.e. 'Dead'. Except that I heard some weak thunderstorm crashes in the background. My experience has been that often when you hear that, the QRN source is a long way away. I called CQ about five times (400 watts CW into a ground mounted vertical with a large radial system) and VK7CW in Burnie, Tasmania came back (now about 12:15 AM CST) with a nice signal, about S-6. He was running 100 watts to a hexbeam. We ended up having a rag chew, and ours were the only signals either one of us could hear on the band over a 9,380 mile path from Eastern Kansas. Again, 17 meters is more often than not open when it seems dead, often for long haul contacts."

Rick Lindquist, WW1ME sent a link to yet another article about the current solar cycle being the weakest in one-hundred years. It also mentions a July meeting of the American Astronomical Society Solar Physics Division, which was in Bozeman, Montana. You can read the article at <http://www.universetoday.com/103803/solar-cycle-24-on-track-to-be-the-weakest-in-100-years/>. The American Astronomical Society promises to have downloadable presentation files from the meeting, but nothing yet. They will be posted at <http://solar.physics.montana.edu/SPD/SPD2013/>.

Sunspot numbers for July 25 through 31 were 71, 58, 64, 68, 97, 105, and 94, with a mean of 79.6. 10.7 cm flux was 106.9, 109.5, 107.9, 109.4, 112.1, 113.1, and 108.7, with a mean of 109.7. Estimated planetary A indices were 11, 14, 11, 7, 6, 6, and 5, with a mean of 8.6. Estimated mid-latitude A indices were 10, 23, 10, 8, 7, 6, and 5, with a mean of 9.9.

FRIDAY MORNING BREAKFAST

Meets every Friday morning from 8 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.

“Morning Glory Restaurant”

***9155 Alpine Street
Rockford, IL 61108***



For Sale or Trade

Code Practice Oscillator MiniKits

For sale. \$10 each, includes schematic. All boards are assembled and tested. Circuit will easily drive headphones or a small speaker. Each board measures approximately 1.25" square and is great for mounting in a small project box or on a wooden board. See Dennis K9VMY at the next club meeting. or contact via e-mail k9vmy@arrl.net. Note: shipping is not included.

HamFest Information

6th Annual Racine Megacycle

Freefest 2013

Saturday 08/10/2013

Firemen's Park
9600 Charles Street
Sturtevant, WI 53177
<http://www.w9udu.org>

Talk-In: 147.270 + (PL 127.3)
Contact: Paul Gianonni KC9PG
9228 Millstone Dr.

Mt. Pleasant, WI 53406
Phone: 262-456-0357
Email: KC9PG@yahoo.com

Chicago FM Club

Radio Expo 2013

Saturday 09/07/2013

Boone County Fairgrounds
8791 IL Rte. 76
Belvidere, IL 60041

Talk-In: 146.76 minus (PL 107.2)
Contact: Michael Brost WA9FTS
5127N. Monterey Dr., Norridge, IL 60706

Phone—708-983-9288

Email: mikeb2006@comcast.net

Tech Fest

Western Lake County Amateur Radio

Society

Sunday 08/18/2013

Grant Township Center
26725 West Molidor Rd.
Ingleside, IL 60041

Talk-In: 147.030 (PL 107.2)
Contact: Joe Serocki N9IFG
35144 Sheridan Dr. Ingleside, IL 60041

Email: joeserocki@gmail.com

W9DXCC Convention

Hamfest/Convention

Friday / Saturday September 20/21 2013

Holiday Inn Elk Grove Village
1000 Busse Road

Elk Grove Village, IL 60007

Talk-In: 146.36 minus (PL 136.5)
Contact: Paula Uscian K9IR
4965 Castaway Lane, Hoffman Estates, IL 60010

Phone—847-358-6644

Email: pmusician@sbcglobal.net

Treasurers Report

ROCKFORD AMATEUR RADIO ASSOCIATION INC.

JULY 29, 2013



PRIMARY CHECKING:

Beginning Balance 6/25/13	_____	1,485.63
Deposits	_____	28.00
Withdrawals	_____	0
Ending Balance 7/30/13	_____	1,513.63

ORGANIZATION SAVINGS:

Beginning Balance 6/25/13	_____	3,223.38
Interest Earned	_____	0.40
Ending Balance 7/30/13	_____	3,223.78

REPEATER COMMITTEE CHECKING:

Beginning Balance 6/25/13	_____	300.00
Ending Balance 7/30/13	_____	300.00

Belvidere Hamfest

Rich Range WB9SFG will be tailgate selling at the Belvidere hamfest. He has graciously offered to sell any equipment that you may wish to liquidate. If you choose to take him up on his offer, please provide him with the price that you wish to get, the lowest price that you will take, and if you want the proceeds to go to you or the Club Treasury. Please take into consideration that he has to negotiate price, so give him some leeway to permit this. You will also have to make arrangements to deliver the equipment to him and make arrangements to pick it up if it does not sell.



P.O. Box 8465, Rockford, IL 61126

Website: www.w9axd.org

E-mail: jholich@comcast.net

<u>Nets</u>		
Monday 8 PM	RARA Info.	146.610 - 114.8 PL
	RARA	147.000 - 114.8 PL
Monday 9 PM	10M SSB Net	28.375 +/- USB
Daily 6 PM	Illinois Traffic Net	3.905 LSB

place address label here

August, 2013

ROCKFORD AMATEUR RADIO ASSOCIATION MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

Single Adult: \$25.00 Adult w/Family: \$30.00
 Single Senior: \$15.00 Senior w/Family: \$20
 Student: \$15.00

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

Name _____ Call Sign _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Home Phone _____

Work Phone _____

Email _____

Renewal _____ New _____ Retired _____

Radio Interests _____

Other Interests _____

Suggestions: _____

RETURN COMPLETED FORM TO:

ROCKFORD AMATEUR RADIO ASSOCIATION
 P.O. BOX 8465
 ROCKFORD, ILLINOIS 61126