

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.

December 2014

Presidents Log

INSIDE THIS ISSUE

Dear Members,
I hope you all had a happy Thanksgiving.

Nominations were accepted at the October general meeting and elections were held at the November general meeting.

The 2015 Officers and directors are....

President - Robert Larson, KC9ICH
Vice President - open position
Treasurer - Shannon Larson, KC9QBC
Secretary - Bruce Carlson, N9OHT
Director - David Larsen, N9ZXL
Director - Jim Holich, AB9SX
Director - Scott Francis, KG9SF
Director - Gordon Seaman, KC9NEX
Director - Dennis Johanson, K9VMY
Director / Ham Rag Editor, Kurt Eversole, KE9N

Ham of the year nomination forms should be brought to the December meeting or emailed to kc9ich@arrl.net
Forms will also be available at the meeting.

The program for December will be "Logbook and QSL cards."
Bring yours to share and compare. Real paper or digital formats for projection are acceptable.

Scan some of your rare ones and bring them on a flash drive. We will also be checking the web to see who has the most unclaimed Eqs'l's.
This should be a lot of fun.

See you all at the December meeting,
Robert - KC9ICH

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NEXT MEETING

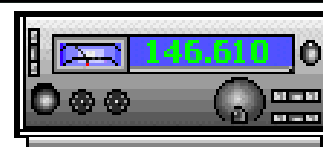
FRIDAY
December 12, 2014
7:00 pm

Presentation:

**“Logbooks and
QSL Cards”**

Location:

**St. Anthony
OSF Medical Center
Foundation Room
5666 E. State Street
Rockford, IL**



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

Meeting Minutes

RARA Club Meeting Minutes for November 14, 2014

The meeting was called to order at 7:12 p.m. Robert Larson welcomed everyone and a round table introductions was given by participants.

Nominations from October 10th were written on the board:

President – Robert Larson, KC9ICH	Vice President – still open
Treasurer – Shannon Larson, KC9QBC	Secretary – Bruce Carlson, N9OHT
Director – David Larsen, N9ZXL	Director – Jim Holich, AB9SX
Director – Gordon Seaman, KC9NEX	Director – Scott Francis, KG9SF
Director – Dennis Johanson, K9VMY	Director and Hamrag Editor – Kurt Eversole, KE9N

There was a unanimous vote of approval for all officers. Jim Holich made a motion, and a second motion was made by John Olson.

Minutes were read for last meeting October 10, 2014, Larry Schubert gave motion to approve, a second motion by Gordon Seaman.

Recognition was given to Ron Callahan, Kurt Eversole, Gordy Seaman and all who helped with the repeater.

Old business: none

New business:

Kurt Eversole – update on repeater, main points were the goal is to have two identical repeaters and two identical controllers, all software drivers & manuals are the same, talk to John Huntley about the internet & Echolink. The plan is to get Echolink running next year. There will be a program/presentation on how to use Echolink at that time, plan to use the 147 more as an information provider with weather radio, maybe the RAIN report from ARRL, with the 610 repeater being more conversational.

Kurt Eversole – As he is the new Hamrag editor, he asked members to send articles for the Hamrag to kurt.eversole@gmail.com (his email is on QRZ, our website & on the Hamrag. Deadline for next Hamrag issue will be on current Hamrag. Send as PDF or Word. He gave ideas for postings such as items for sale or looking for items, theme based – educational or technical. Jim Holich added, “Kurt needs our support because it is our Hamrag.”

Jeff Anderson – asked about CW club FIST, members informed him he should ask Scott Francis.

Dave Larsen – “They are on 147, but it’s not us” Robert Larson answered, it is from another state, thinks it’s from south of Green Bay, Wisconsin. Kurt Eversole asked, what causes that?

Jim Holich – announced IL HAM digest has VE testing dates. Jim would like to do this, announce club meeting presentations.

Gordon Seaman – recommended that we compile a list of email addresses to send out notifications about meetings.

Alvin Alexander – reminding club that we need to form a committee to organize Field Day. Shannon added that we need to reserve with the Park District in January.

50/50 Raffle was held and won by Mike Proctor, who donated all proceeds (\$26.00) to the club.

The program was presented by Robert Larson – “**Cross Band Operation**” .

Motion to adjourn meeting was given by Dave Bond, and seconded motion by Larry Schubert.

There were 19 attendees for the meeting.

HAM OF THE YEAR---2014 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 R.A.R.A. member and should have performed exemplary service for amateur radio during the year 2014. 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 [emailed](#) or mailed to Robert Larson, KC9ICH at the address below or handed to him at the next club meeting on December 12th. All nominations must be received by December 12, 2014. They will remain confidential.

Your participation and early response will be appreciated.

Mail nominations to:

Robert Larson—KC9ICH
3911 Shirley Road
Rockford, IL 61108-1950
Email: kc9ich@arrl.net

Nominee _____

Call _____

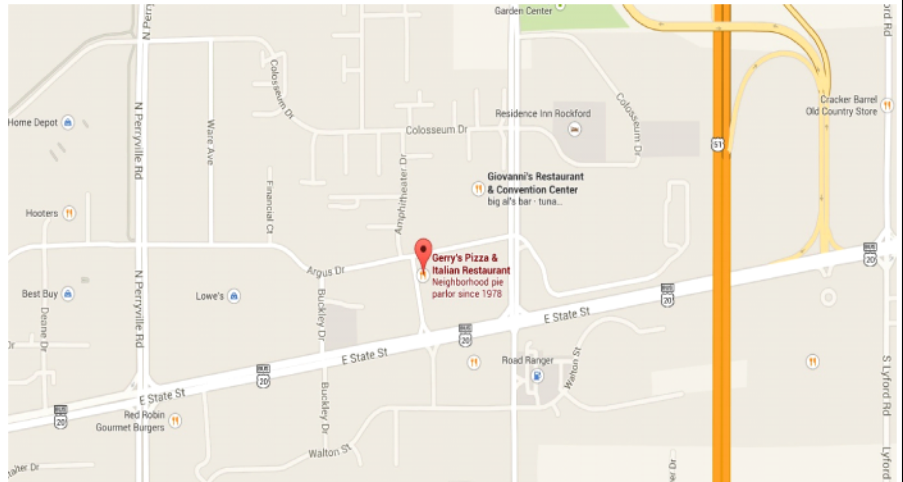
I nominate the above person for the RARA Ham of the Year-2014 award for the following reasons:

Signed _____ Call _____

CELEBRATION MEETING TO BE HELD FEBRUARY 13, 2015

We will be holding our February meeting at **Gerry's Pizza** to celebrate the new year. Bring your spouse, and get to know other members of the RARA family. The starting time is 6:00 pm, and you may order anything you would like, as you will be responsible for your own expenses to be paid by you. RARA will not be offsetting any expenses from funds in the treasury. Come and enjoy the fun!

Gerry's Pizza
7403 Argus Drive
Rockford, IL
(815) 399-2031



UPCOMING RARA EVENTS

December 12 - General RARA Meeting 7:00 pm at OSF
"Showing QSL Cards and Logbook Info"

December 30 - RARA Board Meeting 7:00 pm at OSF

January 9, 2015 - General RARA Meeting 7:00 pm at OSF

January 27, 2015 - RARA board Meeting 7:00 pm at OSF

February 13, 2015 - **Celebration Meeting at Gerry's Pizza 6:00 pm**

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.

"The Morning Glory"

408 7th Street

Rockford, IL 61104



The 2014 ARRL 160 Meter Contest Will Warm Up Your Chilly December

The [ARRL 160 Meter Contest](#) -- an all-CW event -- is tremendous fun! As the object of the contest is for DX stations to contact American and Canadian stations (and vice versa), everyone will be seeking *you* (especially if you live in a rare section like North Dakota, Nebraska or any of the rare sections from November's Sweepstakes contests).

In this contest, Alaska (KL7) and Hawaii (KH6) count as DX, as do the Caribbean US possessions (KP1-KP5) and all of the Pacific Ocean territories (KH0-KH9). Even if you don't have an antenna for 160, you should just load up whatever you have through an antenna tuner and give "top band" a try -- even a 40 meter dipole through a tuner will make QSOs.

Since ARRL and RAC Sections are worth 2 points each *and* count as multipliers, the ARRL 160 Meter Contest is a good way to begin working -- or finishing up! -- your Worked All States ([WAS](#)) award. But don't forget about those DX stations -- each DXCC entity is a multiplier and is worth 5 points each.

The ARRL 160 Meter Contest runs from 2200 UTC Friday, December 5 through 1559 UTC Sunday, December 7. Logs must be e-mailed or postmarked no later than 1600 UTC Tuesday, January 6, 2015. Paper logs should be sent to ARRL 160 Meter Contest, 225 Main St, Newington, CT 06111. Email entries only to: 160meter@arrl.org.

The K7RA Solar Update

12/05/2014

Average daily sunspot numbers rose substantially over the past week, from 97.4 in the previous seven days to 152 for the most recent. Average daily solar flux rose from 168.9 to 172.1.

Predicted solar flux is currently 150 on December 5-6, 145 on December 7, 140 on December 8-12, 180 on December 13-14, 185 on December 15-19, 170 on December 20-23, 175 on December 24-27, 180 on December 28-30, 170 on December 31 through January 1, then 165, 160, 170 and 175 on January 2-5, and 180 on January 6-10.

Predicted planetary A index is 5 on December 5-12, 20 on December 13, 10 on December 14-15, then 8, 10 and 12 on December 16-18, 10 on December 19-20, 8 on December 21, 5 on December 22-27, then 15 and 12 on December 28-29, 8 on December 30-31, and 5 on January 1-6.

AMATEUR RADIO EXAM INFORMATION

November 15th there were 3 applicants resulting in 3 new licenses

Congratulations to:

Steven S Hammerslag, Extra
Steven K McLenachen, Technician
Michael F Proctor, Extra

Thanks to Jim Holich AB9SX, Steve Twigg W9SWT, John Olson W9JGO, and Shari Harlan N9SH for volunteering their time.

Northern Illinois Volunteer Examiners will be holding the next Amateur Radio exam session in Rockford, IL on Saturday, December 20, 2014 beginning at 9:00 AM.

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 until 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:

Jim Holich, AB9SX
Email - jholich@comcast.net
Phone - 779-552-8796

AREA Repeaters

146.610 -	ENC/DEC pl 114.8	W9AXD
147.000 +	ENC/DEC pl 114.8	W9AXD
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

2015 RARA Officers and Board

Officers:

President - Robert Larson, KC9ICH, 815-540-0309
kc9ich@arrl.net

Vice President - Open

Secretary - Bruce Carlson, N9OHT, 815-218-1764
bruce.n9oht@gmail.com

Treasurer - Shannon Larson, KC9QBC, 815-298-7549
shannon1234@sbcglobal.net

Directors:

Ham Rag Editor and Repeater Chairman - Kurt Eversole, KE9N
815-389-2784 kurt.eversole@gmail.com

W9AXD License Trustee - Scott Francis, KG9SF,
815-874-7170 kg9sf@arrl.net

Jim Holich, AB9SX, 779-552-8796 jholich@comcast.net
Dennis Johanson, K9VMY, 815-255-4603 k9vmy@arrl.net

Dave Larsen, N9ZXL, 815-914-6078 n9zxl@att.net
Gordon Seaman, KC9NEX, 815-234-5034 gleasman@outlook.com

Editors Note

If you would like to have something published, please call me or email me at kurt.eversole@gmail.com

Cut-off for the January Hamrag will be Monday, December 29, 2014

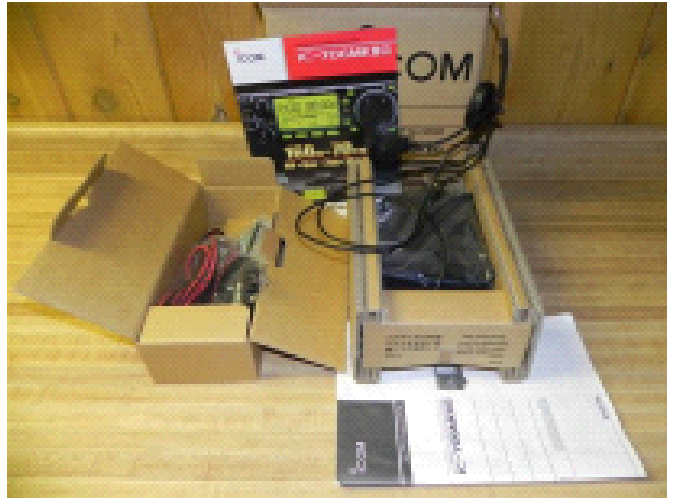
Kurt - KE9N, Editor

Items For Sale

FOR SALE:

ICOM 706MKIIG, 160M - 70CM, (HF + 6M + 2M + 70CM), Excellent condition, includes standard hand microphone, Heil single-side headphone with boom microphone and manual. Asking \$700.00 including shipping within the 48 states.

Contact information: Gene, KA9BOD Phone: 815-226-1806. Email: ka9bod@arrl.net



To My Wife (or Husband)

Use the area below to draw (or list) what ham radio items you want for Christmas and give this to your wife or husband. This may make things easier (or not!) Ho! Ho! Ho! Everyone have a safe holiday. See you next year. Your editor - Kurt, KE9N.



P.O. Box 8465, Rockford, IL 61126

Website: www.w9axd.org

E-mail: ke9n@arrl.net

Nets

Monday 8 PM RARA Info. 146.610 - 114.8
Friday Night Fun Net 8:00 PM 147.255 + 114.8
Illinois Traffic Net (daily) 6:00 PM 3.905 LSB

place address label here

December 2015

ROCKFORD AMATEUR RADIO ASSOCIATION MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

website: w9axd.org

Membership Type : New Renewal

Annual Fees: \$15 - Senior \$20 - Senior w/Family

\$10 - Student \$25 - Adult \$30 - Adult w/Family

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