

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.

News from the North Pole



Your Signal is a perfect S9 Santa

<http://www.qrz.com/db/of9x>

Did you ever wonder why reindeer have antennas on their heads?

SANTA is a HAM!

They have to communicate all over the world at lighting speed, and Santa helps them!

December 2016

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NEXT MEETING

FRIDAY

December 9, 2016

7:00 pm

Presentation:

Ham Radio Podcasts

&

Ham of the Year Nominations

Location:

St. Anthony
Medical Center

Foundation Room

5666 E. State Street
Rockford, IL

UPCOMING RARA EVENTS

December 9th - General RARA Meeting 7:00 pm at OSF

December 27th - RARA Board Meeting 7:00 pm at OSF

January 13th – Awards Banquet, Gerry's Pizza
5 PM cocktails, 6 PM order

January 31st - RARA Board Meeting 7:00 pm at OSF

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



President's Message

Members,

A big thanks to Marianne Geiger - KT9KS, for the November presentation on the recent ARES outing.

It's that time of year again so bring your "Ham of the Year" award nominations to the meeting on December 9th. This month's meeting will be on "Ham Radio Podcasts". Don't forget the January meeting is the annual Christmas Dinner at Gerry's Pizza. Lets go for another record turnout.

This was the third and final year that R.A.R.A. members have allowed me to serve them as President of this wonderful group. It has been an honor. Thanks to all of you who have dedicated time and efforts to this organization.

May 2017 be another year of record growth and most of all, FUN.

Robert Larson - KC9ICH



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 Net Control and help make this net a success. The Net Control is rotated between the club members, with all amateur radio operators encouraged to check in. (RARA members as well as non-members)

Let any of the officers and board know your thoughts and ideas. If you wish to be a net control operator, let any of the officers know. All are encouraged and welcome to participate.

146.610 (pl 114.8) repeater at 8:00 pm, every Monday, except on holidays.

ROCKFORD AMATEUR RADIO ASSOCIATION

MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

website: w9axd.org

Membership: New Renewal
Annual Fees: \$35 - Adult \$25 - Senior, 62 yrs. or older
 \$20 - Student, up to age 24

Above rate includes the RARA monthly newsletter, Ham Rag, via email
Ham Rag via USPS: \$12 extra

Name _____

Call Sign _____

Email _____

Address _____

AREA Repeaters

146.610 - pl 114.8 W9AXD

147.000 + pl 114.8 W9AXD

147.195+ pl 114.8 W9RFD

146.805 - pl 114.8 K9AMJ

224.440 - pl 118.8 K9AMJ

147.255 + pl 114.8 WX9MCS

444.725 + pl 107.2 WX9MCS

2016 RARA Officers and Board

Officers:

President - Robert Larson, KC9ICH, 815-540-0309

kc9ich@arrl.net

Vice President - Gordon Seaman, KC9NEX, 815-234-5034

glseaman@outlook.com

Secretary - Bruce Carlson, N9OHT, 815-218-1764

bruce.n9oht@gmail.com

Treasurer - Shannon Larson, KC9QBC, 815-298-7549

shannon1234@sbcglobal.net

Directors:

Repeater Chairman - Gordon Seaman, KC9NEX, 815-234-5034

glseaman@outlook.com

Kurt Eversole, KE9N 815-389-2784 kurt.eversole@gmail.com

W9AXD License Trustee - Dennis Johanson, K9VMY,

815-255-4603 ##k9vmj@arrl.net

Dave Larsen, N9ZXL, 815-914-6078 n9zxl@att.net

Larry Schubert, AC9GO, 815-624-7772 schubert1@charter.net

Hamrag Editor - Mike Proctor, AC9JZ, 815-414-2329

ac9jz@outlook.com

HAM RADIO BREAKFAST



All ham radio enthusiasts, and spouses, are welcome!

Every Friday.

Most arrive between 8AM and 8:30AM.

Orders taken as we arrive.

Spring Garden Restaurant
4820 N 2nd St, Loves Park, IL 61111

ROCKFORD AREA 2 Meter Nets

Sunday

Green County ARES Net__ Monroe, WI

7:30 PM

145.110 - PL 123.0

Big Thunder Net__ Belvidere, IL

8:00 PM

147.375 + PL 100.0

Whiteside County ARES Net__ Sterling, IL

8:00 PM

146.850 - PL 114.8

Monday

RARA Info Net__ Rockford, IL

8:00 PM

146.610 - PL 114.8

Kishwaukee Amateur Radio Club Net__ Malta/DeKalb, IL

8:30 PM

146.730 - PL 100.0

Tuesday

Rock County Public Service Net__ Janesville, WI

7:00 PM

145.450 - PL 123.0

Tuesday Night Tech Net__ Dakota/Freeport, IL

8:00 PM

147.300 + PL 88.5

Ogle County ARES Net__ Oregon, IL

9:00 PM

147.165 + PL 146.2

Wednesday

Greater Beloit Amateur Radio Club Wednesday Evening Net__ Beloit, WI

7:30 PM

147.120 + PL 123.0

Stephenson County Repeater Association Wednesday Evening Swap Net__ Freeport, IL

8:00 PM

147.390 + 114.8

Thursday

Winnebago/Boone/Stephenson Counties ARES Net (northernlaresnet.org)__ Rockford, IL

7:00 PM

147.195 + PL 114.8 Backup 146.610 - PL 114.8

Friday

Friday Night Fun Net__ Rockford, IL

8:00 pm

147.255 + pl 114.8

ARES News

The month of November was a quiet month for Northern Illinois ARES. At our regular monthly meeting, we heard an interview with the ham in charge of the ARES response to the Joplin, MO tornado in 2011. We also discussed and tested equipment for a possible emergency-deployable portable repeater, made up of Baofeng HT's.

I was invited to the November RARA meeting, and gave a presentation about our camping/training outing at Hononegah Forest Preserve the weekend of October 22. We in ARES all think that that activity was very worthwhile, and we plan to do it again, perhaps in the Spring.

Since adding Stephenson County to the counties comprising Northern IL ARES, we had a dilemma. Where to find a meeting place that was sort of centrally located and easily accessible from Boone, Winnebago, and Stephenson Counties. I am an auxiliary member of the Eagles' Club in Rockford (it's a long story) and asked their permission to meet at their facility. We held our first meeting there in November, and the facility seems to accommodate our needs. Plus, it is right off Bypass 20, south of Rockford, on 11th Street. Bypass 20 is a direct conduit into Stephenson and Boone Counties, and thus should make it easier for residents of those counties to attend meetings.

More training is in store for the winter, on messaging forms and FEMA online courses. As always, anyone who wants to be a part of ARES is welcome to join us at our monthly meeting, the 3rd Monday of the month at 18:30 local time, at the aforementioned Eagle's Club. We also hold a net every Thursday evening at 19:00, on the 147.195 repeater, with relays listening in to Stephenson County and Boone County.

Marianne Geiger, MD
ARES Emergency Coordinator

RARA Club Meeting Minutes for Nov. 11, 2016

Meeting called to order at 7:18 p.m. with 12 attendees.

Treasurer's report from Oct. 25, 2016 was read. Motion to accept by Mike Proctor, AC9JZ Second by Dennis Johanson, K9VMY. Motion passed.

Minutes were read from Oct. 14, 2016 meeting. Motion to accept by Dennis Johanson, K9VMY. Second by Len Soderblom, KD9CDC. Motion Passed

Old Business: Robert Larson discussed the passing of Bob Ditzler KC9LLS

50/50 Raffle: \$24 collected, \$12 won by Bruce Carlson

New Business:

Robert alerted everyone to the \$10 increase in club fees for 2017
Robert reviewed the club membership process

Presentation: Marianne Geiger, KT9KS Role of ARES and the recent ARES field event at Hononegah Forrest Preserve.

Motion to adjourn at 8:13 pm. Motion by Tom Shouler, N9VJU, second by Dennis Johanson, K9VMY

Prepared by Bruce Carlson, N9OHT, Secretary



Santa had some problems putting up his new antenna, due to global warming.

Don't worry the elves and reindeer will help him install it before Christmas!

They live on his antenna farm!



Silent Key KC9LLS – ROBERT D. DITZLER

Robert D. Ditzler, 93, of Rockford passed away on Tuesday, November 8, 2016, at home. Robert was born on December 2, 1922 in Freeport, son of Eugene and Henrietta (Brau) Ditzler. He grew up in Davis, IL. Robert Graduated from Freeport High School in 1942, attended North Central College before serving in World War II from 1943-1945.

Robert was a military policeman stationed in France, Germany, Italy and North Africa. After returning from the war, he worked at Camera Craft and Woods Camera Center. He married Virginia Waldecker in 1957. She died in 1958. Robert was a member of the Rockford Amateur Astronomers Club and was an officer in the Lens and Shutter Club. Robert was employed by Burns Security Service as a guard at SwedishAmerican Hospital during the 1960s. He married Theresa M. Arbisi on May 29, 1965 at St. Anthony of Padua Church. Robert owned Rockford Commercial Studio in the late 1960s. He worked for the Chrysler Corporation in the early 1970s before having triple bypass heart surgery in 1975 at the Mayo Clinic, Rochester, MN. Following surgery, Robert became an at-home Dad. He had double bypass heart surgery in 1987 at the Mayo Clinic and became a member of the Rockford Ornish Community in 1998. Robert was a devoted member of St. Rita Catholic Church and enjoyed photography, wine-making, creating projects on his printing press and received his Ham radio license in 2007. He was a loving father, grandfather and uncle. Robert is survived by daughters Lynette (Patrick) Conner and Cheryl (Derek) Hochstetler, grandchildren Cara and Ian Conner; Kyle and Bethany Hochstetler, several nieces and nephews. He was predeceased by his parents and his beloved wife, Theresa on November 11, 2015. Robert's family would like to thank the Visiting Nurses Association and his caregivers: Kristi M., Katie D., Tammy D., Mary M., Kisha A., Katrina N. and Shirley H.

Funeral Mass will be at 11am Monday November 14, 2016 at St. Rita Catholic Church. Visitation from 1pm until 3pm Sunday November 13, 2016 at Fitzgerald Funeral Home and Crematory, Mulford Chapel, 1860 S. Mulford Rd. and continues on Monday at church from 10:00 AM until time of prayer at 10:45 AM. A private interment will be held on Monday in Oakland Cemetery, Freeport. Memorials may be made to the family. Express online condolences at www.fitzgeraldfh.com

November VE Test Results

We had one successful applicant;

Nastase ,Marcel E General Upgrade KD9GNA

Thanks to Jim Holich AB9SX, John Goodwin N9JHG, Randy Long AC9OF, and Mike Proctor AC9JZ for volunteering their time.

Amateur Radio exams are held the 3rd Saturday of every month in Rockford IL. The next session is 9 AM December 17,2016. Walk-ins welcome. Check-in is from 9AM-10AM, no exams started after 10:00 We require two signature ID's and one photo. If you are a licensed Amateur Radio operator bring a copy of your FCC license. If you are using a CSCE for exam 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.

Celebration MEETING TO BE HELD JANUARY 13, 2017

We will be holding our **January 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 5:00pm to 6:00pm for cocktails, with dinner starting around 6:00pm. You may order anything you would like, as you will be responsible for your own expenses. RARA will not be offsetting any expenses from funds in the treasury. Come and enjoy the fun! The "Ham of the Year" award will be presented as well.

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

