

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.

President's Log

Dear Members,

Thanks to all who came to the February meeting. I'm sure all had a great time. Thanks to Kurt Eversole, KE9N, for supplying the Navassa Dxpediton DVD for the program. It was quite interesting to see all of the logistics and money that goes into a successful Dxpediton.

The March meeting will feature a video provided by Bruce Carlson, N9OHT.

There will also be an update from Dennis Johanson, K9VMY, on our new Fusion Digital Repeater at the 146.610 site.

See you all at the March meeting.

Robert-KC9ICH

March 2016

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NEXT MEETING

FRIDAY

March 11, 2016

7:00 pm

Presentation:

**Video Provided By
Bruce Carlson N9OHT
And Update on**

Fusion Digital/Analog

Repeater by

**Dennis Johanson
K9VMY**

Location:

**St. Anthony
Medical Center**

Foundation Room

**5666 E. State Street
Rockford, IL**

UPCOMING RARA EVENTS

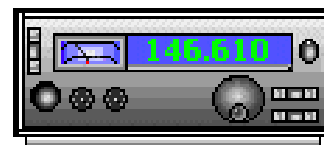
March 11th - General RARA Meeting 7:00 pm at OSF

March 29th - RARA Board Meeting 7:00 pm at OSF

April 8th - General RARA Meeting 7:00 at OSF

April 26th - RARA Board Meeting 7:00 pm at OSF

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



AMATEUR RADIO EXAM INFORMATION

The Test Results for February 20, 2016:

Goodwin, John H	Upgrade to Extra	N9JHG
Lewis, Aaron R	Technician	
Long, Randy D	Technician	
Rafferty, Sean T	Technician	

Thanks to Joseph Moore, Rusty Cordell, Jim Holich, and Mike Proctor for their time.

Amateur Radio exams are held the 3rd Saturday of every month in Rockford IL. The next session is 9 AM March 19, 2016. Walk-ins welcome. Check-in is from 9AM-10AM, no exams started after 10:30. We require two signature ID's and one photo. If you are a licensed Amateur Radio operator bring a copy of your FCC ULS page with your call sign. 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.

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).
Jim Holich AB9SX

jholich@comcast.net

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”

211 7th Street
Rockford, IL 61104

146.610 REPEATER UPDATE

The 146.610 repeater is being serviced during the next few days. Please use the 147.000 repeater for any nets or contacts. PL 114.8, positive offset.

EMERGENCY/COMMUNITY SERVICE

Greetings everyone,

Northern Illinois ARES is fast turning into a cohesive group. There are at least 20 hams in this area who have expressed an interest in being involved, signed into our Thursday night net, come to a breakfast, or attended a monthly meeting. We are pounding our policies into shape and making plans for the following in the future:

1. The Army Johnson Run on Saturday, April 2nd, organized by another organization, with proceeds going to the United Way.
2. Rockford/Chicago Airport drill on Saturday, April 30th, a biennial event.
3. Illinois statewide Strategic National Stockpile drill on June 14 - 16, assisting the Boone County Health Dept.
4. Field Day participation as an ARES station under RARA's standard.

More details will be posted on our website as these events near. Go to www.northernlares.org for more info.

Marianne Geiger

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.



ARRL Field Day is the single most popular on-the-air event held annually in the US and Canada. On the fourth weekend of June of each year, more than 35,000 radio amateurs gather with their clubs, groups or simply with friends to operate from remote locations. Field Day is a picnic, a campout, practice for emergencies, an informal contest and, most of all, FUN! It is a time where many aspects

of Amateur Radio come together to highlight our many roles. While some will treat it as a contest, other groups use the opportunity to practice their emergency response capabilities. It is an excellent opportunity to demonstrate Amateur Radio to the organizations that Amateur Radio might serve in an emergency, as well as the general public. For many clubs, ARRL Field Day is one of the highlights of their annual calendar. The contest part is simply to contact as many other stations as possible and to learn to operate our radio gear in abnormal situations and less than optimal conditions. We use these same skills when we help with events such as marathons and bike-a-thons; fund-raisers such as walk-a-thons; celebrations such as parades; and exhibits at fairs, malls and museums — these are all large, preplanned, non-emergency activities. But despite the development of very complex, modern communications systems — or maybe because they ARE so complex — ham radio has been called into action again and again to provide communications in crises when it really matters. Amateur Radio people (also called “hams”) are well known for our communications support in real disaster and post-disaster situations.

"American Radio Relay League Information Flyer"

ROCKFORD AREA 2 METER NETS

SUNDAY

- Green County ARES Net
7:30 PM
145.110 – PL 123.0
Monroe, WI
- Big Thunder Net
8:00 PM
147.375 + PL 100.0
Belvidere, IL
- **Digital Tech Net (New)**
8:00 PM
147.255 + PL 114.8
(Net begins in analog)
Rockford, IL
- Whiteside County ARES Net
8:00 PM
146.850 – PL 114.8
Sterling, IL

MONDAY

- RARA Info Net
8:00 PM
146.610 – PL 114.8
or backup
147.000 – PL 114.8
Rockford, IL
- Kishwaukee Amateur Radio Club Net
8:30 PM
146.730 – PL 100.0
Malta/DeKalb, IL

TUESDAY

- Rock County Public Service Net
7:00 PM
145.450 – PL 123.0
Janesville, WI

TUESDAY (continued)

- * Tuesday Night Tech Net
8:00 PM
147.300 + PL 88.5
Dakota/Freeport, IL
- * Ogle County Amateur Radio Net
& Skywarn
9:00 PM
147.165 + PL 146.2
Oregon, IL

WEDNESDAY

- * Greater Beloit Amateur Radio Club
Wednesday Evening Net
7:30 PM
147.120 + PL 123.0
Beloit, WI
- * Stephenson County Repeater
Ass'n Wednesday Evening Swap Net
8:00 PM
147.390 + PL 114.8

THURSDAY

- * Winnebago/Boone Counties Ares Net
(northernlares.org)
7:00 PM
146.610 – PL 114.8
or backup
147.000 + PL 114.8
Rockford, IL

FRIDAY

- * Friday Night Fun Net
8:00 PM
147.255 + 114.8
Rockford, IL

FCC Seeks Comments on Petition to Grant Lifetime Amateur Radio Licenses

The FCC is seeking comments on a Petition for Rule Making (RM 11760 – available on the web at, <http://apps.fcc.gov/ecfs/document/view?id=60001333714>) that asks the FCC to grant lifetime Amateur Radio licenses. Mark F. Krotz, N7MK, of Mesa, Arizona, filed his request with the FCC last November. He wants the FCC to revise Part 97.25 of its rules to indicate that Amateur Radio licenses are granted for the holder’s lifetime, instead of for the current 10 year term. Krotz noted that the General Radiotelephone Operator License (GROL) already is issued on a lifetime basis, and he maintained that not having to renew licenses would lighten the FCC’s workload.

“It would be mutually beneficial for the FCC and Amateur Radio operators to update Part 97 to grant operator licenses for lifetime, Krotz said in his filing. “The FCC would benefit by reducing administrative costs.”

In 2014 the FCC granted lifetime credit for examination elements 3 and 4, but applicants seeking relicensing under that provision still must pass examination element 2.

Individuals may submit comments via the FCC’s Electronic Comment Filing System (ECFS). <http://apps.fcc.gov/ecfs/proceeding/view?name=RM-11760>

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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

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

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

Directors:

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glseaman@outlook.com

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W9AXD License Trustee - Dennis Johanson, K9VMY,
815-255-4603 ##k9vmy@arrl.net

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

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P.O. Box 8465, Rockford, IL 61126

Website: www.w9axd.org

E-mail: ac9jz@outlook.com

Local Area 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

March 2016

**ROCKFORD AMATEUR RADIO ASSOCIATION
MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION**

website: w9axd.org

Membership Type : New Renewal

Annual Fees: \$10 - Student (up to age 24)

\$25 - Adult \$15 - Senior (age 62+)

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