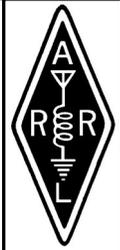


HAMRAG

Visit our website for more club and area ham information at <http://w9axd.org>, or join us on Facebook at this [LINK](#)



RARA Mission Statement

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

March 2017

INSIDE THIS ISSUE

President's Message

Greetings Everyone,

March is here already, and it seems that the year is flying by way too rapidly. Hopefully by the time this reaches you, our webpage should be updated and current, if not, it won't be too far off. Also for those of you who may not be aware, we now have a Facebook page, which can be found by searching Rockford Amateur Radio Association from the main Facebook page. The board and I feel this is a good addition to expand our presence, as so many people follow Facebook, and post comments and questions. Please look us up and join our group. There are so many things in the works for this year that I cannot cover them all here this month. I hope to see as many of you who can attend our next membership meeting on March 10, 2017 at OSF hospital in Rockford. The meeting is held in the Foundation room and starts at approximately at 7:00pm.

Sincerely,
Gordon Seaman, KC9NEX
2017 RARA President



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NEXT MEETING

FRIDAY

March 10, 2017

7:00 pm

Presentation:

“Echolink”

What is it, and how to use it.

Location:

**St. Anthony
Medical Center**

Foundation Room

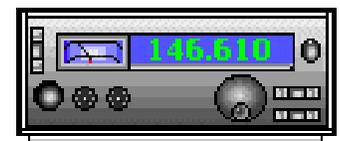
**5666 E. State Street
Rockford, IL**

61126

\$\$\$ Membership Dues Are Due \$\$\$

It's time once again to renew your membership. See our treasurer, Jennifer, KD9FMJ, at the next meeting to renew your membership, or become a new member. You also may use the form on page 6, and mail in your completed form (with payment) to the address at the bottom of the form.

Starting in April, the Hamrag notice will only be sent to those who have renewed their membership for 2017.



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

Secretary's Report

RARA Membership Meeting Minutes 2-10-2017

The meeting was called to order at 7:10 pm. There were 26 people present.

Gordon, KC9NEX, introduced himself and then there was a go around with introductions and what each person was doing with amateur radio.

The minutes were read by Jennifer Van Zieleghe, KD9FMJ, from the December meeting. A motion to accept was made by Len Soderblom, KD9CDC, seconded by Larry Schubert AC9GO, and passed by a voice vote.

The minutes were read by Jennifer Van Zieleghe, KD9FMJ from the January meeting. A motion to accept was made by Larry Schubert AC9GO, seconded by Jim Holich AB9SX, and passed by a voice vote.

The treasurers report was presented by Jennifer Van Zieleghe, KD9FMJ. A motion to accept was made by Len Soderblom, KD9CDC, and seconded by John Goodwin, N9JHG, and passed by a voice vote.

Old Business:

There was no old business to report.

New Business:

Mike Proctor, AC9JZ, brought up his desire to hand off the duties as Ham Rag editor. His life situation has changed and he doesn't feel he can perform the duties anymore.

Jennifer Van Zieleghe, KD9FMJ, talked about our Facebook page and how she has taken it over. She is in the process of continuing to update the page and we are slowly adding new members. She hopes that in the future it could turn into a great tool for bringing new members to the club, and ham radio in general.

Kurt Eversole, KE9N, reported on his progress in getting the web page back up to date. He is in the process of arranging a meeting with Robert Larson, KC9ICH, to go over a few final questions. He also reported that Field Day this year will be held at the VFW club in Roscoe. The date for Field Day this year is June 24, and 25th and we have a special call sign for the event which is K9K. More information will be coming as the date draws nearer.

Then there was a general discussion brought up by Len Soderblom, KD9CDC, asking what would the group like to see in the way of presentations.

Following the discussion the fifty fifty raffle was held, Larry Schubert, AC9GO, won \$23.50.

Presentations:

Dennis Johanson, K9VMY, did a short presentation on club finances and expenditures.

Kurt Eversole, KE9N, showed a video about K3LR's antenna farm and what some will do to be competitive.

Gordon Seaman, KC9NEX, presented the Ham of The Year plaque to Dennis Johanson, K9VMY, for his many contributions to the club.

There was a motion from Len Soderblom, KD9CDC, to adjourn, seconded by Dennis Johanson, K9VMY. The vote carried.

Respectively submitted,
Gordon Seaman, KC9NEX

UPCOMING RARA EVENTS

March 10th - General RARA Meeting 7:00 pm at OSF

March 21th - RARA Board Meeting 7:00 pm at OSF

April 14th - General RARA Meeting 7:00 pm at OSF

April 18th - RARA Board Meeting 7:00 at OSF

RARA Facebook Page

If your one of the many people that have a Facebook account, then check out the Rockford Amateur Radio Association Facebook page. See what's going on at this [LINK](#).



Local Area Nets

Monday 8:00 PM RARA Info. 146.610 - pl 114.8
Friday Night Fun Net 8:00 PM 147.255 + pl 114.8
Illinois Traffic Net (daily) 6:00 PM 3.905 LSB
Thursday Night 7:30 PM Digital Net *System Fusion*
443.175 +, no digital tone needed, group mode.



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 you 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.

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 April 2017 Hamrag will be Sunday, March 31, 2017

Kurt - KE9N, Editor

NEWS FROM AROUND THE GLOBE

In the March edition of QST, one of our RARA members, Max Gersh, KD9DBF, was pictured on page 80. Way to go Max! Next will be the BIG screen in Hollywood.



Max Gersh, KD9DBF, was one of many newly licensed amateurs who reported NPOTA improved their on-air skills. He put those new skills to good use when he activated Cuyahoga Valley National Park (NP14) in Ohio. [Max Gersh, KD9DBF, photo]

NEW ILLINOIS SECTION MANAGER

Ron Morgan, AD9I, of East Peoria, Illinois, has been appointed ARRL Illinois Section Manager, effective February 16. He succeeds Tom Ciciora, KA9QPN, of Sandwich, who stepped down for personal reasons. ARRL expressed its thanks to Ciciora, who has served at the helm of the Illinois Field Organization for more than 10 years, since July 2006. ARRL Field Services Manager Dave Patton, NN1N, appointed Morgan in consultation with ARRL Central Division Director Kermit Carlson, W9XA. Morgan, who has been an Assistant Section Manager in Illinois since 2002, will complete the current term, which continues through June 2018. He's also a Central Division Assistant Director. A retired electrical engineer, Morgan currently teaches technology at Illinois Central Christian School.

CIA Declassified Database Includes Information About Soviet-Era Amateur Radio:

Central Intelligence Agency (CIA <http://www.cia.gov/>) reports relating to Amateur Radio in the former Soviet Union (including the Baltic States) and Warsaw Pact countries are among documents declassified to a new searchable online database <https://www.cia.gov/library/readingroom/search/site/%20amateur%20ham%20radio>, the CIA Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) Electronic Reading Room. Documents cover translations and assessments of Amateur Radio clubs; training; monitoring Sputniks; technology and equipment; QSL cards, and ruminations on a plan to monitor US ham radio transmissions for activities "of interest" to the intelligence community. Searches on "Amateur Radio" or "ham radio" will yield multiple documents, some heavily redacted.

For example, a 1949 memo largely dismissed the use of Amateur Radio in the Soviet Bloc as an intelligence-gathering tool. "Except for possibilities in the counter-espionage field, it is believed that exploitation of amateurs with reference to the USSR and satellites could lead at best only to information concerning the location of ham transmitters, an item of dubious intelligence value," said the memo, which carried the subject line "Exploitation of Radio Amateurs." Another memo from the same year showed that the USSR viewed the growing "cadre" of radio amateurs as the next generation of engineers.

Documents covering a wide range of topics not necessarily related to Amateur Radio also have been declassified, sanitized, and made available to the public for the first time in this archive. Some of these documents were only available previously in a closed system at the US National Archives <https://www.archives.gov/>. Thanks to Southgate Amateur Radio News via Andy Thomas, G0SFJ

RARA MEMBERSHIP FORM

If you would like to join the Rockford Amateur Radio Association, please fill out the form below and mail it (with the membership fee payment) to the address shown at the bottom of the form. If you would like to join at our next meeting (see 1st page for meeting details), fill out the form and bring the form with your payment to the meeting and see our treasurer, Jennifer Van Zieleghe, KD9FMJ. **Thank you for your support!**

ROCKFORD AMATEUR RADIO ASSOCIATION

MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

website: w9axd.org

Membership Type : New Renewal

Annual Fees: \$20 - Student (up to age 24)

\$35 - Adult \$25 - 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