

HAMRAG

April
2018

April 13th

Radio FOX Hunting

Randy Long - AC90F



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Next Meeting: Fox Hunting • Friday April 13th 7:00 PM
Location: St. Anthony Medical Center • Foundation Room • 5666 E. State Street Rockford, IL

President's Message

Greetings all,

Here it is April already and I hope everyone had a Happy Easter Holiday! In my case there are still many projects waiting to get done for the summer radio season, at least the weather is starting to cooperate a little for the ones outside.

This month's presentation by Randy Long, AC9OF is on the very popular sport of "Fox" hunting, not the kind with dogs of course. Our goal is to provide information so each of you can build your own antennas and attenuators if you wish, and join us in a fox hunt later in the year when the weather is a little warmer. If there is enough interest this could become a more regular event.

Two other items I want to mention are Field Day, June 23 and 24, and the Belvidere Ham Fest, which is usually held in September. I know both are pretty far off but it is never too early to think about attending and participating if you can. The ham fest in Belvidere is our only fund raiser for the year, so, as you clean your shack for spring, if you have anything you no longer need or want to sell, keep the club in mind. More information will be forthcoming about both of these events.

That is enough rambling from me, enjoy the presentation on April 13, 2018 at OSF at 7:00 pm in the Foundation Room. 73

Sincerely,
Gordon Seaman KC9NEX
2018 RARA President
kc9nex@gmail.com



2018 RARA Officers & Board

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INEXPENSIVE 20 METER HOMEBREW TRANSCIEVER

65.6'



**PARTS
LIST:**





Editor's Note

As I look through a stack of donated Hamrags from the 1980's I have noticed a glaring difference between RARA then and RARA now...

MEMBER PARTICIPATION!

Information, ideas and techniques were shared. The members did not depend on only one person to fill every issue.

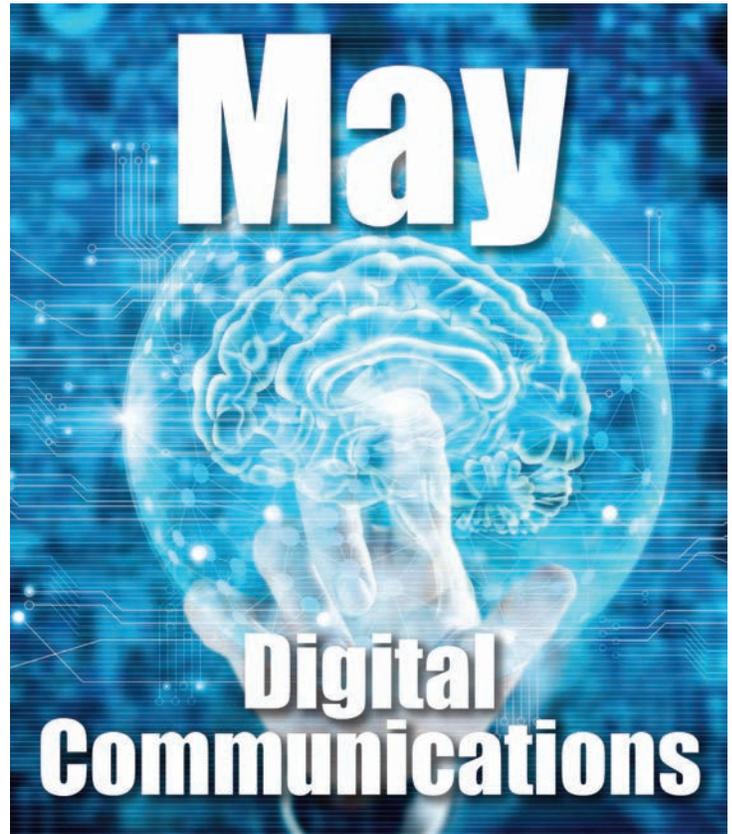
Randy and I are still newbies in the area of ham radio and are glad to share what we are learning.... but there is a vast pool of wisdom and know how right within RARA that could and should be transferred to our younger Techs and Generals (younger in Ham operation years).

I'd like to challenge and invite **everyone** to consider submitting an article, photo(s) or information about an event you participated in or on a project you have worked on for the next issue in May and beyond. Help others reach your skill level.

Our Hamrag can only be as good or informative as you help to make it. We have a small membership but a great wealth of ideas and talent to share...

GET INVOLVED THIS MONTH! STAY INVOLVED IN 2018!!

Thanks
Lynn Long KD9IFP
Hamrag Editor
randy@rdlgraphics.com.



RARA Repeaters

Both repeaters (146.610 and 147.000 (both have a pl 114.8)) will function with both digital and analog radio signals, but the repeaters require time to determine whether the signal is digital or analog. To operate the repeater properly you must first be sure the frequency is clear, then key and hold the microphone button down for 1-2 seconds. Then begin speaking. If you fail to do this, the first part of your message will be lost.

RARA Mission Statement

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

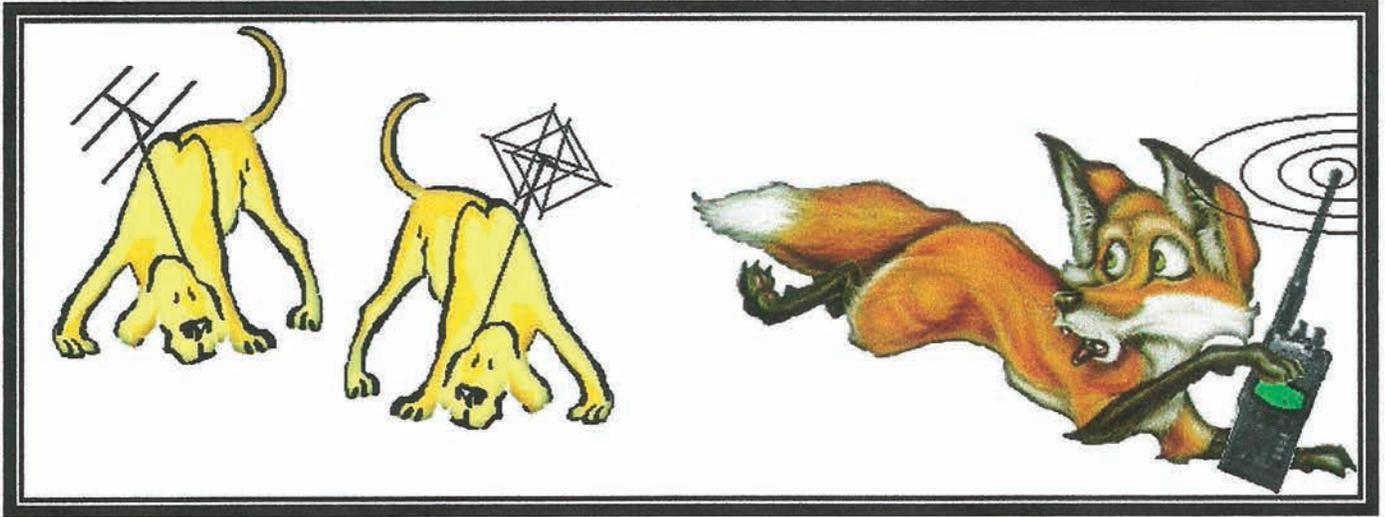
Hamrag Blast From The Past

Ten Commandments of Electronics Taken from the RARA Ham Rag, September, 1981

1. Beware of the lightening that lurketh in an undischarged capacitor, lest it cause thee to be bounced upon thy buttocks in a most ungentlemanly manner.
2. Cause thou the switch that supplies large quantities of juice to be opened and thusly tagged, so thy days may be long on this earthly vale of tears.
3. Prove to thyself that all circuits that radiateth and upon which thou worketh are grounded, less they lift thee to high-frequency potential and cause thee to radiate also.
4. Take care thou useth the proper method when thou taketh the measure of high-voltage circuit so that thou doth not incinerate both thee and the meter; for verily, though thou has no account number and can easily be replaced, the meter doth have one, and, as a consequence, bringeth much woe unto the Supply Department.
5. Tarry thou not amongst those who engage in intentional shocks, for they are surely non-believers and are not long for this world.
6. Take care thou tampereth not with interlocks and safety devices, for this will incur the wrath of thy seniors and bringeth the fury of the safety officer down about thy head and shoulders.
7. Work thou not on energized equipment, for if thou doeth, thy buddies will surely be buying beers for thy widow and consoling her in other ways not generally acceptable to thee.
8. Verily, verily I say unto thee, never service high-voltage equipment alone, for electric cooking is a slothful process and thou might sizzle in thine own fat for hours on end before thy Maker sees fit to end thy misery and drag thee into His fold.
9. Trifle thou not with radioactive tubes and substances, lest thou commence to glow in the dark like a lightening bug, and thy wife be frustrated nightly and have no further use for thee except thy wage.
10. Commit thou to memory the works of the prophets, which are written in the instruction books, which giveth the straight dope and which consoleth thee, and thou cannot make mistakes, sometimes, maybe.

- Unknown





Stateline Amateur Radio Club

Fox Hunt

May 19 2018 1:00 till 2:30

Registration at 12:30

Pizza Party at Pizza Hut 3:00

Registration is at Pizza Hut 1640 Willard Drive Freeport Il 61032 Pizza party at 3:00 is at same location. \$5.00 donation if attend Pizza Party.

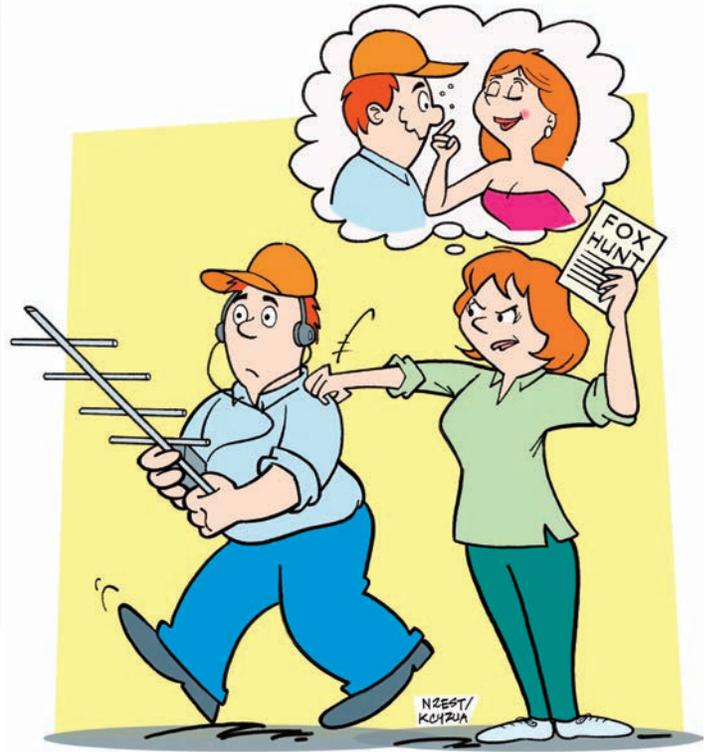
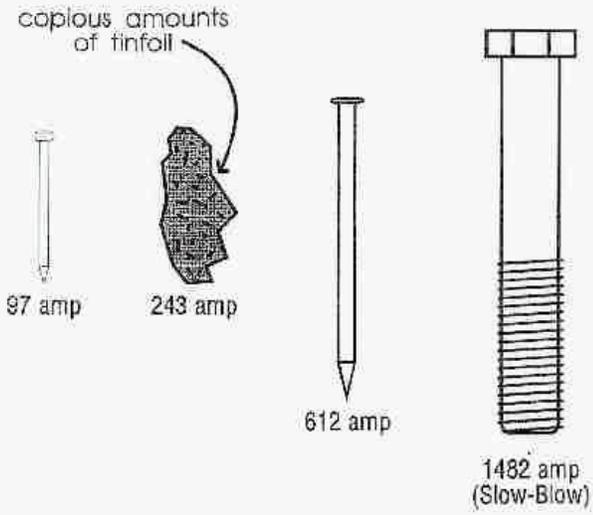
Certificates and prizes will be awarded.

Please contact Tony N9ARB at n9arb.ec@gmail.com to preregister and /or Questions.

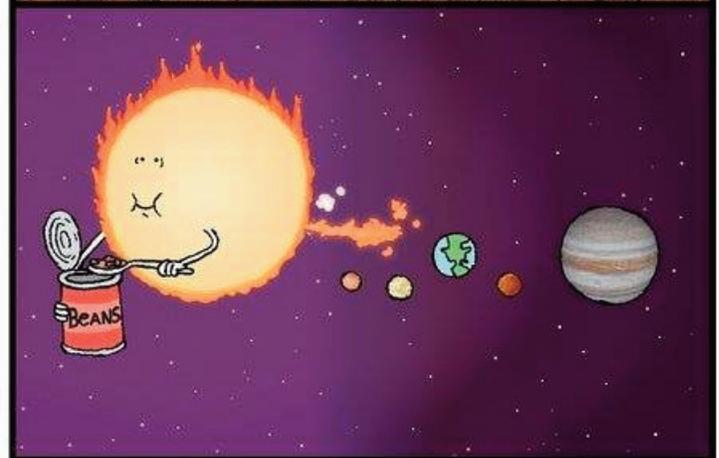
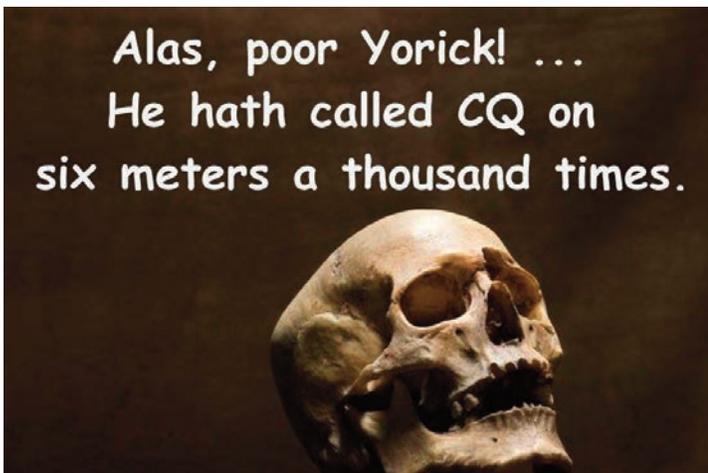
Hunt Frequencies TBA Soon

Ham Funny

Guide to Fuse Replacement



Sunny Street



Ham Radio iPhone Apps

Fox Hunting Apps

FoxHunt Pro
Map-N-Comp
SigTrax

Sunshine Map
Ham Utility
Ham Sat
EchoLink
WSPR Watch
APRS Prp SE
Repeater Book
Ham Radio Call
Track Sats

Misc Ham Apps

QRZ Callsign Search
Ham Radio
Ham Log
Morse-It
DX Toolbox
Wave Guide
Ham Ant Cal
Day & Night

ARRL Testing Apps

Tech
General
Extra



Meets every Friday morning from 8 am until about 10:00 am. An informal gathering of ham folks, no affiliations necessary, good food and good company.

**Everyone is
welcome to attend.**

**“The Spring Garden Family Restaurant”
4820 N. 2nd Street
Loves Park, IL 61111**

Webmaster Code

We have added a few new pages to the site this month. The new pages include a listing of area Hamfests, ARRL Contests and On-The-Air Events for 2018. Coming soon we will be expanding the Hamrag section to include a few long lost 1980's issues.

I'm open to ideas for new website sections and pages. Looking for event photos, page links to articles, contests or events. Maybe an event RARA should under take. Pass your ideas along.

I still need your help in planning club meetings for the last half of 2018. Please pass along any ideas. Jen and I have already committed to a couple of meetings each - we need a few more members to step up and share.

Randy AC90F
VP/Webmaster
randy@rdlgraphics.com.

w9axd.org





Programs

- May - Digital Communications
- June - Field Day Preparation and Planning
- July - Field Day In Review
- August - Connectors
Power Poles & Cable Assembly
- September - December
- TBA - Any ideas?

Meetings

- April 13, 2018
General RARA Meeting 7:00 pm at OSF
- April 17, 2018
RARA Board Meeting 7:00 pm at OSF
- May 11, 2018
General RARA Meeting 7:00 pm at OSF
- May 15, 2018
RARA Board Meeting 7:00 pm at OSF



Ham Testing

Long, Lynn M - KD9IFP
Upgrade to General

Nelson, Daniel V.
Technician

Nordbrook, Jeremy M. - KD9JTX
Upgrade to General

Rafferty, Laura A.
Technician

Remmers, Anthony P.
Technician

Amateur Radio exams are held the 3rd Saturday of every month in Rockford IL. The next session is 9 AM April 21, 2018.

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

FOX Hunt Web Links

YouTube Videos (click on link)

- <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=eQSiTqH9Dzw>
- https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=aCDNjlf_K6g
- <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=KDN8w7awAkQ>
- <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=y-tLH0HzO8g>

Websites (click on link)

- <http://www.homingin.com/intlfox.html>
- <http://www.arrl.org/news/another-world-championship-medal-for-ardf-team-usa>
- http://www.ardf-r1.org/ardf_rules
- <http://www.texasardf.org/getstarted/>
- <https://ardf.whyjustrun.ca>



March 9, 2018

Meeting called to order at 7:04 pm.

There were 13 members present with 2 guests. We had a go around where everyone introduced themselves and told what they had been doing with ham radio and any other interests in the hobby.

There were no minutes from the February meeting due to it being canceled because of a snow storm.

The treasurers report was given by Jennifer Van Zieleghe, KD9FMJ and a motion to accept was made by Larry Schubert, AC9GO and seconded by Jim Holich, AB9SX motion passed.

There was no old business.

Under new business, Gordon Seaman, KC9NEX brought up field day which will be held on June 23th and 24th. He reported that Kurt Eversole, KE9N was looking for someone to manage field day this year. If anyone was interested please contact Kurt or anyone on the board.

There was a presentation put on by Randy Long, AC9OF having to do with soldering basics and the tools needed to perform it.

After Randy's presentation Gordon Seaman, KC9NEX did a show and tell about a tape measure beam and attenuator he had assembled. The April meeting will be about Fox Hunting and he will not be present so he brought his in early to show the members what it looked like.

The fifty-fifty drawing was held and Jim Holich, AB9SX won \$27.00.

A motion to adjourn was made by Jim Holich, AB9SX, seconded by Larry Schubert, AC9GO and the motion passed.

Respectfully submitted by;
Gordon Seaman KC9NEX

Area Nets

Monday Night 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 Jimmy, KC9GCR, (net control). 146.610 - offset (pl 114.8) RARA repeater at 8:00 pm, every Monday, except on holidays.

Tuesday Night Tech Net

at 8:00 pm, 145.110 (pl 123.0). Tony, N9ARB, is net control.

Wednesday Night Stephenson County ARES (Amateur Radio Emergency Service) Net

at 7:00 pm on 147.390 + offset (pl 114.8). N9ARB, Tony, is net control.

Thursday Night Northern Illinois ARES (Amateur Radio Emergency Service) Net

at 7:00 pm on the 147.195 + offset (pl 114.8) repeater with either Marianne, KT9KS; Sean, W9STR; or Ricky, WX9RLT, as net control.

Thursday Night Northern Illinois Skywarn net

at 8:00 PM on the 147.195.

Friday Night Fun Net - Every Friday night at 8:00 pm on the 146.610 - offset (pl 114.8) RARA repeater with Jimmy, KC9GCR, as net control.

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!



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