



HAMRAG

June
2018

June 8th Field Day Prep

Greg Kuczek W9VOX
Kurt Eversole KE9N



Grid Chase!

Inside This Issue:

Page 2 President's Message	Page 7 Ammo Box Radio Go Box Challenge
Page 3 Editor's Note RARA Repeaters Friday Breakfast	Page 8 Meeting Notes Area Nets
Pages 4 Ham Funny	Page 9 Ham Radio Glossary
Pages 5 Field Day Posters	Page 10 Membership Form
Page 6 Upcoming Events Field Day Sign-Up Ham Testing	



Next Meeting: Field Day Prep • Friday June 8th • 7:00 PM
Location: St. Anthony Medical Center • Foundation Room • 5666 E. State Street Rockford, IL

President's Message

Greetings all,

June is here already, and the big event this month is Field Day. It is being held on Saturday, June 23th and Sunday, the 24th. Again, this year it is being held at the VFW Post in Roscoe, IL and starts at 1:00 pm on Saturday and continues until 1:00 pm on Sunday. You can find more information about this event and its location following in the Ham Rag. Make sure you attend the membership meeting on Friday June 8th at OSF Hospital, in the Foundation room at 7:00 pm for more information on this event and to see how you can help, I'm sure there will be chances to operate the radio and or log the contacts.

Make sure you mark your calendars for this event and come out to show your support for the club, you might be surprised how much fun you will have.

Hope to see you there,

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



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Editor's Note

Please share your photos or articles - otherwise it makes for a very thin Hamrag.

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



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**



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.

Ham Funny

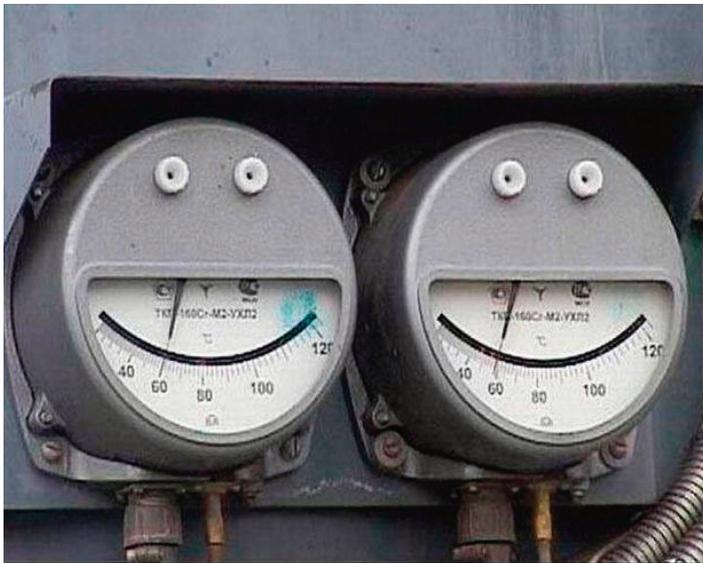
**BACK IN HIS DAY, THE LADIES
CONSIDERED SAMUEL MORSE**

UnKNOWN PUNster ©2018

TO BE A DASHING YOUNG MAN



Waking up the morning after Field Day

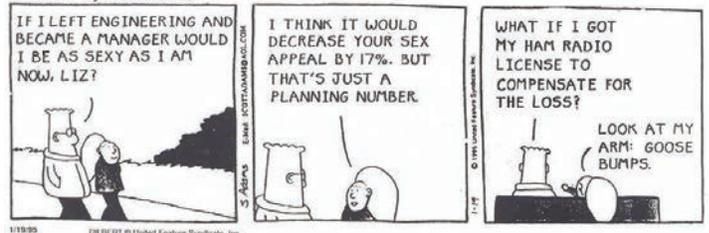


Meters react to two hams...each carrying a 1.5 kW transmitter into the building.



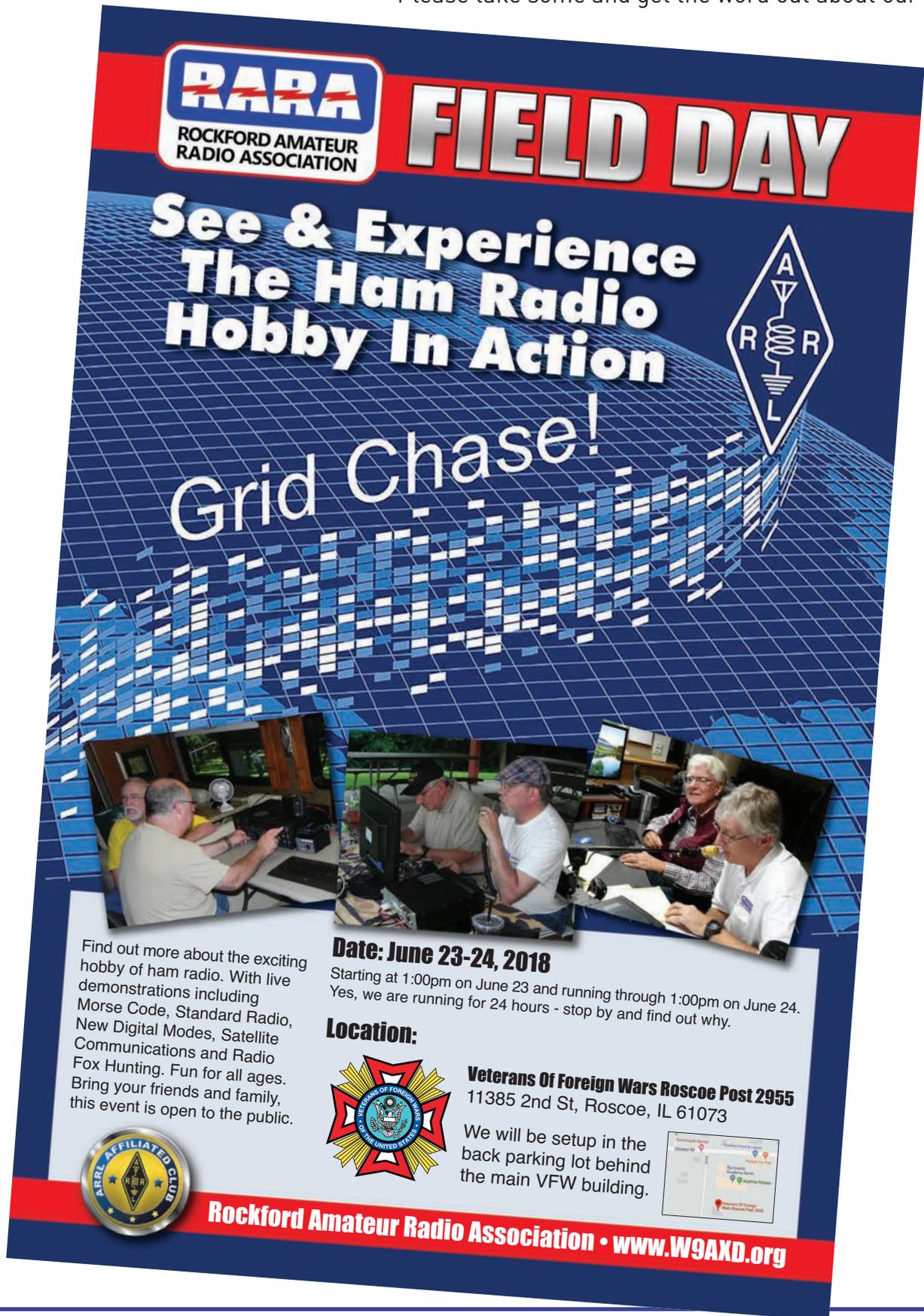
Yes I am running just 4 watts, although I suppose I do have an above average antenna system.

DILBERT™ by Scott Adams



FIELD DAY POSTERS

Posters will be available at the June meeting.
Please take some and get the word out about our event.



The poster features a blue and red color scheme with a grid pattern. At the top left is the RARA logo: "RARA" in a stylized font with a lightning bolt, above "ROCKFORD AMATEUR RADIO ASSOCIATION". To the right, "FIELD DAY" is written in large, bold, white letters with a red outline. Below this, the text "See & Experience The Ham Radio Hobby In Action" is written in a large, white, sans-serif font, followed by "Grid Chase!" in a similar font. On the right side, there is a diamond-shaped logo containing the letters "A", "R", "R", "L" and a symbol of a radio antenna. Below the text, there are three photographs showing people operating ham radio equipment. At the bottom, there is a white box containing event details: "Date: June 23-24, 2018", "Starting at 1:00pm on June 23 and running through 1:00pm on June 24. Yes, we are running for 24 hours - stop by and find out why.", "Location: Veterans Of Foreign Wars Roscoe Post 2955, 11385 2nd St, Roscoe, IL 61073", and "We will be setup in the back parking lot behind the main VFW building." There is also a small map showing the location. At the bottom left of the white box is a circular logo for "ARRL AFFILIATED CLUB". At the bottom of the poster, a red banner contains the text "Rockford Amateur Radio Association • www.W9AXD.org".

Find out more about the exciting hobby of ham radio. With live demonstrations including Morse Code, Standard Radio, New Digital Modes, Satellite Communications and Radio Fox Hunting. Fun for all ages. Bring your friends and family, this event is open to the public.

Date: June 23-24, 2018
Starting at 1:00pm on June 23 and running through 1:00pm on June 24. Yes, we are running for 24 hours - stop by and find out why.

Location:
 **Veterans Of Foreign Wars Roscoe Post 2955**
11385 2nd St, Roscoe, IL 61073

We will be setup in the back parking lot behind the main VFW building.



Rockford Amateur Radio Association • www.W9AXD.org



Programs

June - Field Day Preparation and Planning

Greg Kuczek W9VOX

July - System Fusion Digital Voice

Mark Thompson WB9QZB

August - December Program List:

Satellite Communications

Portable Radio Systems

Exothermic/Cadwelding

Contesting

Power Pole & Cable Assembly



Meetings

June 8, 2018

General RARA Meeting 7:00 pm at OSF

June 19, 2018

RARA Board Meeting 7:00 pm at OSF

July 13, 2018

General RARA Meeting 7:00 pm at OSF

July 17, 2018

RARA Board Meeting 7:00 pm at OSF

Ham Testing

Gadja, Jacek KD9ELI

Upgrade to General

Nelson, Daniel V. KD9KNJ

Upgrade to Extra

Amateur Radio exams are held the 3rd Saturday of every month in Rockford IL. The next session is 9 AM June 16, 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

Sign-Up 4 Field Day

Sign up to help with Field Day 2018.

Let Greg W9VOX know when you can work a radio.

Name: _____

Call Sign: _____

Email Address: _____

Home Phone #: _____

Cell #: _____

Time Slot(s): _____

For More Information Contact:

Greg Kuczek - W9VOX - 815-713-5461

gjk1406@comcast.net

Ammo Box Radio Go Box Challenge

The Challenge:

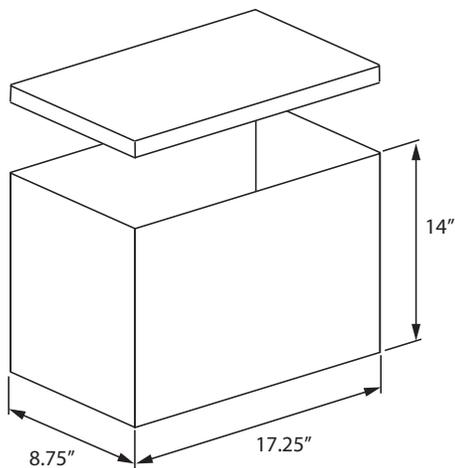
To design a HF/UHF/VHF self-contained and internally powered radio go box using one of the two ammo boxes shown.

The concept of this type of go box is that it would be a grab and go ham shack. A quick and easy setup when you might have only minimum time to react, lack of structures or trees to deploy antennas and still provide quality communication services to a community in need.



Rules:

1. All radio components, support gear (including chargers and converters) and batteries must fit within the box. Antennas and solar panels can be externally carried.
2. All components (including antennas) must be off the shelf items that can be bought at a store or on-line (list part numbers and source).
3. The system needs to be compatible with 120v, 12v and solar power sources.
4. A basic wiring schematic and equipment placement diagram to prove concept must be provided.
5. A basic deployment diagram showing antenna and optional solar panel location is required.
7. Stats on minimum and maximum power required during operation, along with the projected run time just off the internal battery.



Large Box

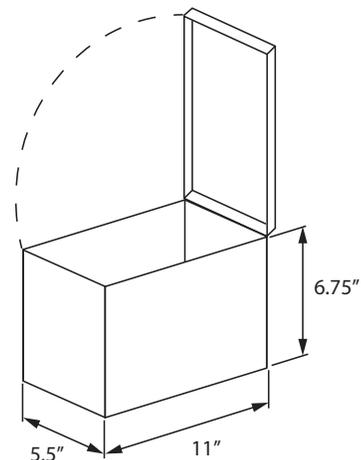
The lid is removable.

Send or give your design to:

Randy Long AC90F
 randy@rdlgraphics.com

I will post some of the design ideas on the website and try to feature others in the Hamrag.

This is meant to be a fun challenge that will help some of the non-tech hams design and build a useful tool.



Small Box

The lid is attached.



May 11, 2018

Meeting called to order at 7:10 pm.

There were 16 people present.

The meeting minutes from April were approved as presented in the Ham Rag, motion by Randy Long, seconded by John Goodwin.

Treasures report given by Jennifer VanZielegthem and approved by a motion from Greg Kuczek seconded by Larry Schubert.

Old Business: Randy Long brought up the topic of meeting ideas and what everyone would like to see presented.

New Business: Kurt Eversole and Greg Kuczek brought up field day information and handed

out fliers looking for people's participation.

Jen VanZielegthem brought up information about a bicycle race being held on Sunday June 10, 2018 in Aurora.

Scott Allshouse asked if the 146.610 repeater could be used by the Salvation Army if needed, Gordon Seaman said he would bring it up to the board and the trustee Robert Larson.

Larry Schubert brought up that HRO in Milwaukee was having a tailgate party on May 19, 2018 and that is was being held from 9:00am until 12:00pm.

Chuck Goodwin brought up the DXCC convention. Jen VanZielegthem did a presentation on the hot new FT8 mode and showed how to set up your equipment and what contacts looked like on the screen.

Motion to adjourn by Randy Long and seconded by John Goodwin, meeting adjourned at 9:15pm.

Respectfully submitted by Gordon Seaman.

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.

HF Net Information - Head on over to the RARA website and take a look at the "Nets" page. We now have listings and links to great HF nets.

Ham Radio Glossary

Acid core solder- Solder wire which uses LSD in the center, as a flux.

Admittance- A characteristic of a radio amateur who acknowledges his mistakes.

Autopatch-The process of refurbishing sheet metal on vehicles.

Anti-static strap- A conductive strap, tightly worn around the mouth of a quarrelsome person.

Amplifier- A circuit which magnifies signal strength, that has reached combustion temperature.

Continuous wave- Uninterrupted kindred gesturing.

Desense- A French phrase referring to pennies.

Desoldering- Removal of grassy turf.

Dielectric- A mode of expiration by means of electrocution.

Distributed capacitance-Capacitors handed out to a group.

Ground Plane- Metallic chip like substance from recycled aircraft.

Ground radials- Recycled tires.

Guy wires- Support cables of male orientation.

Half-wave- A salutation from a person not especially exuberant.

Ham Band- A musical group comprised of amateur radio operators.

Heterodyning- A meal attended by both sexes.

Kilocycle- A two wheeled vehicle, in which is hidden illegal drugs.

Main lobe- Beer gut.

Ohmmeter- One who eats ohms.

Over sampling- A phenomena that often takes place at ham pot luck dinners.

Packet Radio- A transceiver that comes in a very small envelope.

Rectifier- A painful phenomenon that occurs when the lowest section of the lower intestine reaches combustion temperature.

Rise time- A period of awakening, often extended the morning after Field Day.

Semiconductors- Subordinate attendants on domestic passenger rail services.

Side lobes- Sometimes called "love handles".

Silicon- A jubilant felon.

Slow scan television- Television that won't quickly change channels.

Speech clipper- A source of interruption at a radio club presentation.

Spread spectrum- The entire range of semi-solid foods applied to bread and toast.

Shortwave- a kindred gesture of very brief duration.

Time delay generator- An engine driven AC power plant that won't start.

Tracking generator- A complex machine that produces steel rail.

Transistor - A sister that used to be a brother

Transponders- Those who have traveled across very small bodies of water.

Vacuum capacitor- The act of cleaning a capacitor.

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