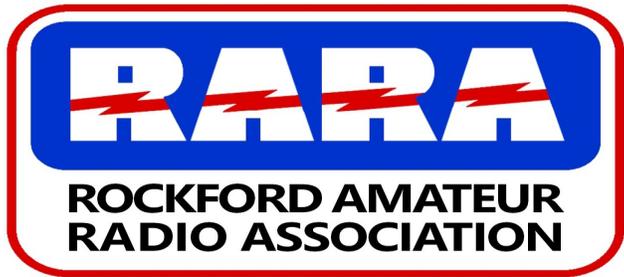


HAMRAG

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.

January 2021

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Presidents Message

My Fellow Hams,

Finally, HAPPY NEW YEAR! 2021 could not get here fast enough! At last we have hope that we will once again be able to get together as friends, as family, and as hams, and I'm sure you could add to that list. It is not going to happen this month, but the light is at the end of the tunnel. It may be three months or it may be six months down the road, but it will happen. The year 2020 was the year that wasn't. The year 2021 is set to be the year that is.

We recognize that we as a club did not do much of anything this past year.

Could we have done more?

Yes, I'm sure we could have, but I am still wondering what it is. All year long we looked at each other and kept asking What can we do? No matter what we thought of, we couldn't overcome the road blocks. Looking back, I felt that I failed as a leader, and though I can point out that I was fighting cancer most of the year, but that is just an excuse. I know I could have done better, and I apologize for what I didn't do. We the board members of RARA feel as a group you should have received more, so we are going to do something about it. FOR THE YEAR 2021 YOUR DUES WILL ONLY BE \$10. THAT'S RIGHT ONLY TEN DOLLARS FOR THE YEAR. NEW MEMBERS, OLD MEMBERS, HIGH SCHOOL MEMBERS, RETIRED MEMBERS, MEMBERS IN FLORIDA, TEXAS, CALIFORNIA OR TIM BUCK TWO (where-ever that is) ONLY TEN DOLLARS FOR THE YEAR FOR EVERYONE.

Other plans for the year. Winter Field Day will be held on January 30 and 31 1900 UTC Saturday to 1900 UTC Sunday. Again, we will have to do it on an individual basis. It doesn't look like the state is going to allow group activities. There are some other events that you may want to participate with such as Straight Key Night, which is held on New Years Eve. The Bands are waking up. Have fun.

Hopefully, by June we'll be able to get together for Field Day, and if possible I would like to get all Hams in the area together for an old fashioned picnic. I want to have some antenna building days, some fox hunts, and other things. What we are able to do will depend on what you as a group want. Also we will have more programs on the air as long as our meetings are being held on the air.

Stay Safe My Friend! Have fun with your radio.

'73

Larry AC9GO Larry.schubert@gmail.com

[RARA president](#)

NEXT MEETING

**Friday
January 8
7:00 PM**

Live

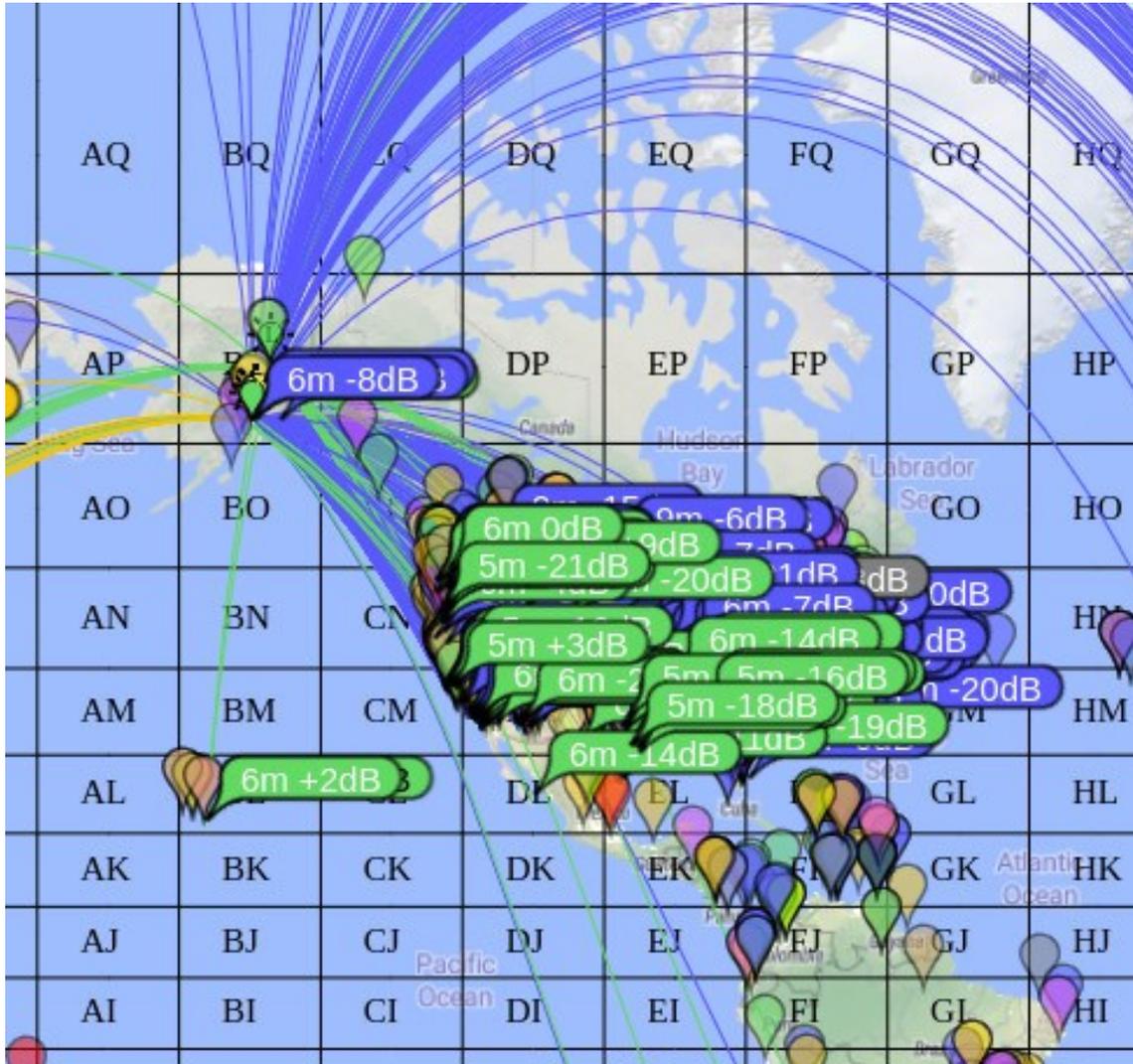
On AIR

**146.610
Repeater
Or
147.195**



While I am operating, I watch PSKReporter set up to show spots of my transmissions over the prior 15 minutes; this shows me where I am being heard while I am operating. That knowledge can save me from trying to work places I'm not being heard, and can also clue me in to places I AM being heard that I did not expect.

Even if you don't use digital modes, you can still use PSKReporter to show propagation patterns that indicate where the DX is. Here's another example, the PSKReporter map at 7:15PM the same day, but showing spots of FT8 signals heard out of Alaska (grid square BP) on all bands over the last 15 minutes:



Please try out the website. It is free and no registration is required. If you operate or monitor digital modes, you can also set your station software (e.g., WSJT-X) to send spot reports automatically to PSKReporter over the internet if you wish, thereby contributing live data to this great project.

73 DE KD9MAP

2021 RARA Officers and Board

Officers:

President - Larry Schubert, AC9GO, 815-624-7772, larry.schubert@gmail.com
Vice President - Dan Hallstrom, KB9LOJ, 815-229-7526, hallstrom@gmx.com
Secretary - Jeffrey Metters, KD9MEC, 815-670-5506, jeffmetters@gmail.com
Treasurer - James Curtis , 779-537-2233, KC9GOL, jimhcurtis7818@yahoo.com
Repeater Chairman - Kurt Eversole. KE9N, 815-389-2784, kurt.eversole@gmail.com

Directors: Bill Callow, 815-298-1923, KC9OJP, bill5002@comcast.net

Gordon Seaman, KC9NEX, 815-262-0294, kc9nex@gmail.com

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Webmaster - Skyler Whitenack, KD9PJC, skynojoke@gmail.com

Repeater License Trustee - Gordon Seaman, KC9NEX, 815-262-0294, kc9nex@gmail.com

Local Events and Information

UPCOMING EVENTS

January 8, 2021 - On Live Radio 7pm - 146.610 or 147.195

Weekly Monday Night Net 7 pm

Weekly—Tuesday Night Net - Thursday Night Net (see info below)

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.

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.

AMATEUR RADIO EXAM NOTICE

Contact Brandon for more information as to the Freeport IL testing times and location.

Brandon J McGrew bmacmagoo@hotmail.com There is also testing available in Janesville.

Contact wi9fry@gmail.com For mote info.

\$10 RARA for the year 2021 New, Old, Retired

Name:Call Sign.....

Street address.....City.....State.....Zip.....

E-mail.....Best Phone.....

Can we release E-mail and phone to members only? Yes....No....

What things do you like to do with Ham radio?

.....

What do you want to do, but need more information to do it?.....

.....

Would you be available to make a presentation on some part of our hobby and what?.....

.....

What can we as a club do better?.....

.....

Please fill out the and mail it along with \$10 to: Rockford Amateur Radio Association

PO Box 8465

Rockford, Illinois 61126