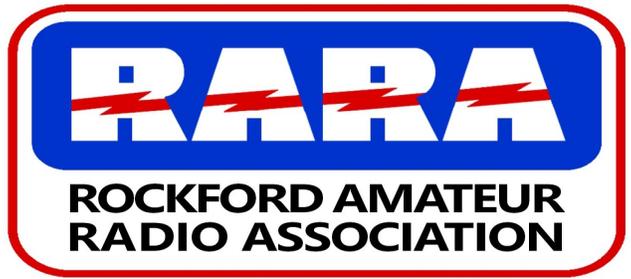


HAMRAG

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.

September 2021

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Greetings Fellow Hams,

Here we are in September of 2021 and still stuck in a Pandemic. When my XYL and I got our shots in February and then in March of this year, I thought great we should be in the home stretch, and hopefully by the end of summer or maybe September or October we should be able to start meeting in person again. And though some of us could get together, for others we would be taking a gamble with their lives. That is not a chance I want to take!

I contacted the hospital a few weeks back, and they never returned the call. I left a message that I was trying to find out when we might have meetings again. Since that time Covid 19 D has taken hold and things have gotten worse for those who are not vaccinated. Bottom line, if you don't wear a mask and are not vaccinated, things aren't looking good for you right now because if D doesn't get you the next variety of Covid is even worse. The next variety is easily transmitted like D plus it is more deadly.

Presenting a Ham radio topic on the Air has been a challenge, and I hope that you appreciate the extra time it takes to put together something that should have at least screen shots and better yet a personal presentation and demonstration. I haven't had much negative, but I don't know how many people we have put to sleep either. If you have a topic that you think can be presented on the air let me know. I'll even help you with the presentation.

Hey! Enjoy your ham radio and please be careful out there. I'd love to see you in person when we get through this thing.

73 de AC9GO Larry

NEXT MEETING
September 10

7:00 PM

Live

On AIR

146.610
Repeater
Or
147.195



JARC Antenna Launcher Review by KD9MAP

I prefer wire antennas for several reasons, mainly low cost, multiband capability, and ease of deployment. I use two EFHWs, one of which covers 10,15,20,40, and another one which covers all of 10-80 except 60. Each of them cost under \$100, and they can be erected and maintained without requiring a team of workers. My EFHW transformers are mounted on second-floor windowsills, and the far ends go out to trees, so I don't have long outdoor coax feedline runs. EFHWs are about as simple as you can get.

My QTH is 40 feet below HAAT, so I need height. Casting a fishing pole, I wasn't able to reach as high as I'd like; although I've gotten good results at about 20 feet high, I wanted to get the 10-80 antenna higher. Rick KD9QDP recently got a JARC air cannon, and he kindly launched a higher lanyard for me.

I've seen all kinds of air cannons on the internet, and I admit I've been skeptical whether they really work or not. The JARC cannon kits are sold by the Joplin Amateur Radio Club, link <http://joplin-arc.org/antenna-launchers/> for \$60. You glue the PVC parts together, and add your own fishing reel.

So Rick weighted the drogue, pressurized the tank with a tire pump, and let fly, looping a branch about 35 feet up. We dragged a rope lanyard back over the branch, and then I dropped the antenna from the old location, and re-hoisted it with the new lanyard. The cannon worked well. The only design change I would make would be to make the ends of the drogue more pointy instead of flat; that would make it easier to drag across branches.



I did my next 73 FT8 QSOs with that raised antenna to test it out thoroughly. The antenna tuning had changed very little. I worked 20 DX stations in 14 countries, including Kamchatka and Tasmania, during a week when space weather was less than excellent. My daily quota is to work ten new callsigns every day, on average, and I've had no problem achieving that goal for over a year, using wires in trees and under 100W forward power.

The K7RA Solar Update

09/03/2021

Tad Cook, K7RA, Seattle, reports: Solar activity is on the upswing this week. Average daily sunspot numbers increased from 21.7 to 50.6, with a high of 77 last Saturday, August 28. Average daily solar flux rose from 78.5 to 88.

Average daily planetary A index increased from 4.7 to 9.6, and average daily middle latitude A index went from 5.7 to 10.7. Geomagnetic activity peaked August 27 – 28 due to a coronal mass ejection.

New sunspot regions appeared on August 26 and 27, and on September 2 Spaceweather.com reported, "New Sunspot, Rapidly Growing" to announce the emergence of AR2863.

Predicted solar flux looks promising, particularly after mid – September, at 85 and 82 on September 3 – 4; 80 on September 5 – 6; 78 on September 7; 75 on September 8 – 10; 80 on September 11 – 14; 85 on September 15; 90 on September 16 – 30; 85 on October 1, and 80 on October 2 – 10. Flux values rise to 90 again after October 12 in this forecast from September 2.

Predicted planetary A index is 8, 5, 10, and 8 on September 3 – 6; 5 on September 7 – 10; 10 and 8 on September 11 – 12; 5 on September 13 – 20; 8 on September 21; 5 on September 22 – 25; then a big jump to 25, 8, 18, 8, and 12 on September 26 – 30, back to 5 on October 1 – 7, and then 10 and 8 on October 8 – 9.

Reprinted from ARRL September web page

Is Anyone going to the Hamfest? —————>>>>>>

RARA has several new members since 2019 and many have not met in person (obvious reason)

This Hamfest may be an opportunity for some of the new members to meet some of the seasoned members to share tech and stories.

Looking for a Veteran of Hamfests to act as a guide at the event. Toss the idea around on the nets in the next few weeks.

There are a few newbies looking for guidance...

Mark Your Calendars 2021 Radio Expo

Northern Illinois' Largest Hamfest

Sunday

September 26th, 2021

Dealers! Radios! Computers! Electronics! Raffles!
Boone County Fairgrounds
8794 IL-76, Deshler, IL 61008

Indoor Market 8am-3pm
Flea Market 6am-3pm
Breakfast - Lunch
Bring The Family
Hourly Drawings
VEC Testing 9am-Noon
RV's or Motor Homes
Camping
Water-Electric \$35

Talk-In Repeaters
146.760 - 107.2 CFMC



MAKING HAM RADIO FUN

Advance Tickets - \$8.00 - At the Gate - \$10.00 - Kids under 12 Free Tickets required with Tables

Name & Call _____ # of Tickets _____ x \$8 = _____

Address _____ All tables _____ x \$15 = _____

City, State, Zip _____

Phone _____ Email _____ \$10.00 - Inside Electric _____ Outside Electric _____

For event questions: Call 773-614-4733 Have Check payable To: Chicago RF Club
Email: radioexpo@icloud.com 8743 Coonewick apt 112 North Riverside, IL 60546
Display on website: <https://www.chicagoradioexpo.org>

CFMC reserves the right to make any necessary changes required
Vendor setup is Saturday, September 25th from 9:00 - 4:00 PM with security over night.



Join us on FACEBOOK for the latest info
<https://www.facebook.com/groups/1542388942734826>

2021 RARA Officers and Board

Officers:

President - Larry Schubert, AC9GO, 815-624-7772, larry.schubert@gmail.com
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Secretary - Jeffrey Metters, KD9MEC, 815-670-5506, jeffmetters@gmail.com
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Repeater License Trustee - Gordon Seaman, KC9NEX, 815-262-0294, kc9nex@gmail.com

Local Events and Information

UPCOMING EVENTS

September 10 2021 - On Live Radio 7pm - 146.610 or 147.195

Weekly Monday Night Net 7 pm —Tuesday Night Net - Thursday Night Net

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