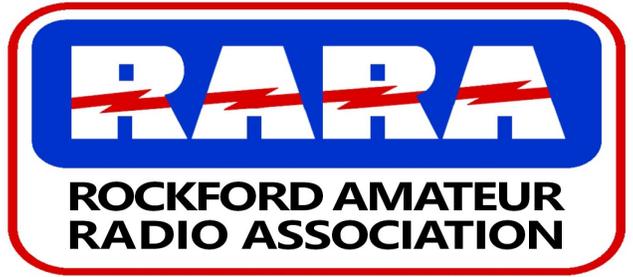


HAMRAG

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.

June 2022

Presidents Message

Hello Everyone,

This month's meeting will primarily be on the activities for Field Day, so try to make the meeting and see where you can help out and also operate to make this a fun and enjoyable event for club members, and anyone else who wants to attend. Everyone is welcome, hams and non-hams alike. We will have two stations operating, one for SSB, and a digital (FT8, PSK31) station. You can operate either station, and as long as there is a control operator present, you do not even need a license. Along with this is the chance to meet and talk to some other area hams. It's always a good time at Field Day.

Our meeting will be on Zoon again, and the link to the meeting is: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82647021291?pwd=RIZ1TzJwdmMrM3IzcVJHQjNjMxIOUT09>.

A special THANK YOU to all the people who have submitted information and articles for the Hamrag. The information is very much appreciated and is very helpful.

73,
Kurt Eversole—KE9N
President



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NEXT MEETING On Zoom

FRIDAY June 10, 2022 7:00 pm

"Field Day"

Meeting Link:

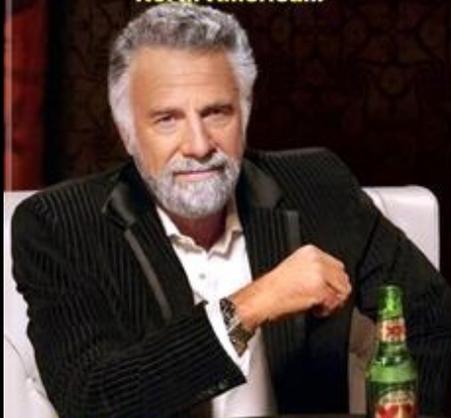
<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82647021291?pwd=RIZ1TzJwdmMrM3IzcVJHQjNjMxIOUT09>

So I bought a new transceiver and she asked...



"Are you going to sell any of your old ones?"

I don't always have the opportunity to talk with people outside of North America...



But when I do, it's usually HF Radio at 100 Watts, Single Side Band!



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

Secretary's Report



May 13, 2022

7:00 pm RARA Regular online Zoom meeting

Members Present: 15, Kurt Eversole President

Approve April Meeting Minutes as published

Treasures Report: None Bills – none.

Old Business:

Jimmy Curtis, KC9GOL, is checking to see if OSF is allowing in person meetings again.

New business:

Field Day Banners - Larry, AC9GO has 2.

Kurt, KE9N, has reserved the VFW in Roscoe for Field Day.

The call sign K9K is being reserved for Field Day and has been added to the ARRL Field Day locator site.

The Hamrag will have up to date times for the local nets.

Kerry, KD9MAP, will help get the web site current to match the Hamrag.

PayPal for our club is in the works to make it available to those that want to use it for dues payments and receive funds for the club.

Local swap fests in the area, - Combine with other local Ham clubs? We are looking into this during the year – depending on how much stuff is available to be sold. Maybe make a swap meet into a social (cookout, cater, food event)

Kerry, KD9MAP, suggested to use Facebook social page for communicating some of our events.

ARRL Insurance - Jimmy, KC9GOL, is getting quotes for the club and repeaters/ equipment insurance. We will compare to the existing coverage when he gets the quote.

The 146.610 has been operating quite well lately.

Field Day starts June 25th at 1:00pm - June 26th at 1:00pm. Field Day will be held at the Roscoe VFW back parking lot in Roscoe, IL. Manpower will be needed to help set up Saturday morning, operate the station(s) thru the day and overnight until Sunday at 1:00pm, and help to dismantle and cleanup on Sunday.

Presentation: Kerry, KD9MAP, presented a very informative demonstration of the FT8 process and software. It was well received and explained and enjoyed by all.

The meeting was adjourned by 8:45.

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 July 2022 issue will be Wednesday, June 29, 2022

Kurt - KE9N, Editor

Local Events and Information

UPCOMING RARA EVENTS

June 10, 2022 - General RARA Zoom Meeting 7:00 pm

June 21, 2022 - RARA Board Meeting 7:00 pm at OSF

June 25-26, 2022 - **Field Day at the Roscoe VFW**

July 8, 2022 - General RARA Zoom Meeting 7:00 pm

July 19, 2022 - RARA Board Meeting 7:00 pm

HAM RADIO GAMES

History was made Friday night, June 3, as the first ham radio chess game was played on the Friday Night Fun Net between KD9MAP and KD9MED. Ham Radio Chess was popular before World War Two because it was harder to find opponents then, especially in rural America. As America became more urban after the war and other means of communication came about, Ham Radio Chess became less popular, though it still continues.

The match on the Friday Night Fun Net was a demonstration and an invitation. We could have several matches going simultaneously on one of the repeaters because there's a lot of dead air during games. Are you interested? How about Wednesday at 7:00 pm or some time during the day. Let's talk about it on the next Friday Night Fun Net or send me an email at l.lisle@usa.net. 73, K9KZT

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.

Field Day 2022

CQ FIELD DAY CQ FIELD DAY CQ FIELD DAY

June 25th and 26th is our annual Field Day event, which is being held at the Roscoe VFW in Roscoe, IL. Come out and join the fun! We start setting up at 9:00 am on Saturday and start operating at 1:00 pm to 1:00 pm on Sunday. If you never operated before, this is an excellent time to learn. We will have a SSB station set up for you to make contacts with, and learn about proper techniques. Everyone is invited, as with a control operator present, you can operate regardless of your license class. There will be a digital station, so if you want to learn about digital modes come and learn about operating digital! We need help in setting up radios and antennas, operating and logging, and teardown, so if you have not already made plans let me know what you would like to do. My phone number is 815-389-2784, or you can e-mail me at : kurt.eversole@gmail.com

RARA has reserved a special event call of K9K for Field Day.

For directions to Field Day, check out the Field Day locator on the ARRL web page at:

<http://www.arrl.org/field-day-locator>

In the upper left corner of the Field Day Station Locator under the heading "Location or Call Sign" you can type in **K9K**, and the map will display the marker for our Field Day location. Clicking on the marker will display the address and you may zoom in on the map to see where it is located.

Many of us are planning to stay overnight, so bring a tent, or whatever you have, and enjoy camping and ham radio in the same weekend.

See you at Field Day 2022!

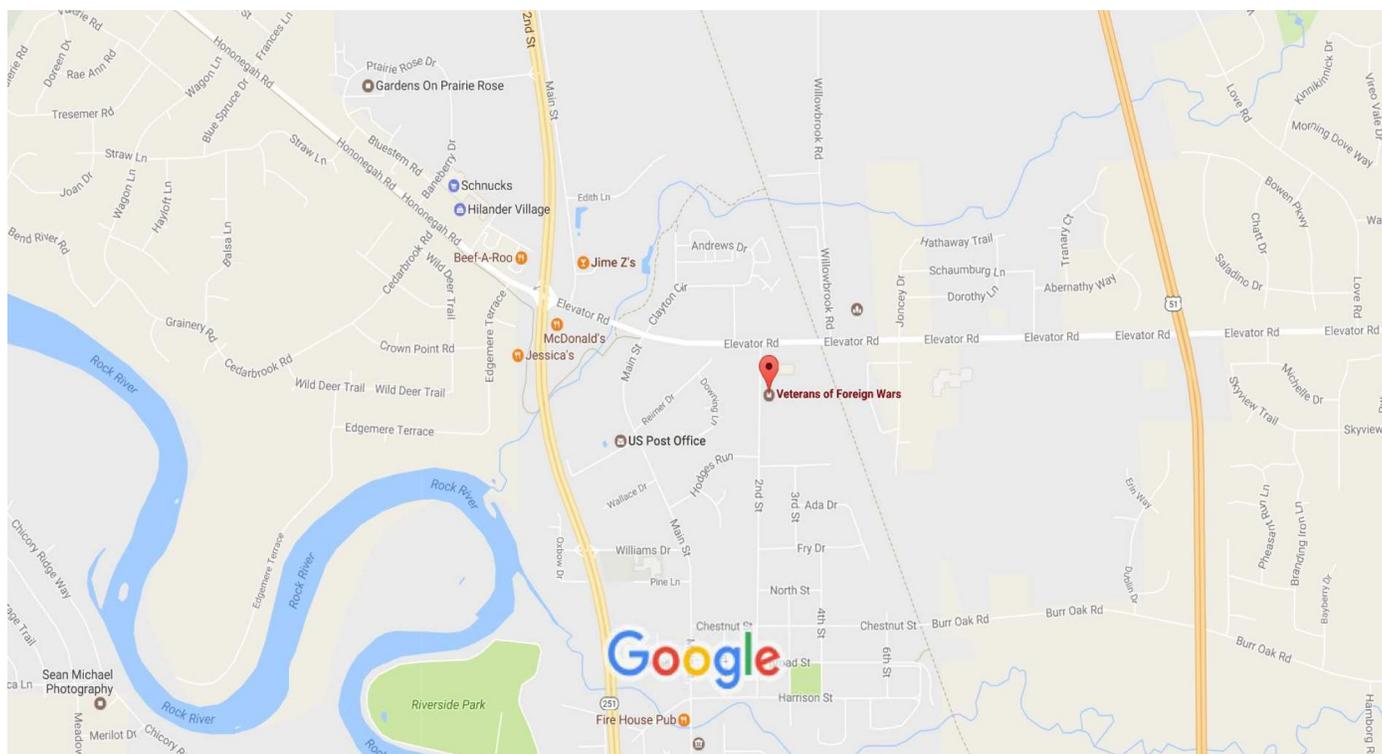
73,

Kurt Eversole - KE9N

Veterans of Foreign Wars Roscoe Post 2955

11385 2nd Street

Roscoe, IL 61073



A Field Day Story

Field Day or Fun Day June 2022

My first Field Day was back in the late 1950's. As long ago as it was, I can remember it like it was yesterday. Five or six teens all my buddies and all new to Ham radio went off to the Field Day sight which consisted of a building that had openings for windows and doors but no windows and doors to open or close. Basically a shell of a building with two or three generators running outside and as I remember two or three towers. Inside there were at least three stations set up, and there it was in the middle of the larger of the rooms a brand new Collins KWM-2 complete. This was the top of the line, the latest in ham radio equipment, complete with all the bells and whistles. If something major hasn't happened to it, you can probably still see some drool marks from my friends and I. Little did we know that we would all have a chance to work with it through the night. This was so new to us at the time that we really didn't know what we were doing to use it. We were used to having a transmitter and a receiver, and not the integrated package in front of us. We were used to calling cq and then tuning for stations close by. It didn't matter if a station was slightly off frequency you just dialed them in with your receiver, and your transmitter stayed where you had made the call. Single side band was just getting popular at the time, and many of the receivers we were using were not even made to tune in ssb.

Talk about a learning experience, and fun wow! At the time I had just a novice license if anything at all, but because we had a general class with us at all times, and maybe even an extra we were able to use most of the ham bands. As a novice, as I remember it, we only had 2m and possibly 6m available to us for voice, and very little equipment was available at the time. Repeaters were not available yet, so those bands were almost useless. What I am trying to say is this was really a treat for us.

Since that time I've gone to several Field Days through the years, and I've always had fun, and learned a lot as well. Like the time I helped put up a beam on a temporary mast, or the time I hadn't made it clear to my wife that this was an all night thing, and she called the sheriff, and the deputy met me coming out of the door of a local school at about 6am in the morning. You can bet I haven't repeated that mistake again. I've had the chance to work with boy scouts, and helped them earn their radio merit badge, and watched their eyes light up when they got on the air and talked to someone on the other side of the country, and I've seen myself light up after making my first contact in Europe. I've watched a couple of guys proficient at morse code make one contact after another so fast that it would make your head spin. Over the years I've had the pleasure of working Field Day in Indiana, Michigan, Illinois and Wisconsin. All have been friendly and welcoming to anyone who stops by either to spend time on the air, just visit or see what this great hobby is all about. This year our Field Day is June 25th and 26th from Saturday morning through Sunday morning. Our location this year will be at the Roscoe VFW, 11385 2nd St. Stop in and see us, or better yet set up a time in advance to be on the air. Oh I almost forgot to mention, that all Field Day sights seem to have one thing in common, great food. See you there.

73,
Larry AC9GO



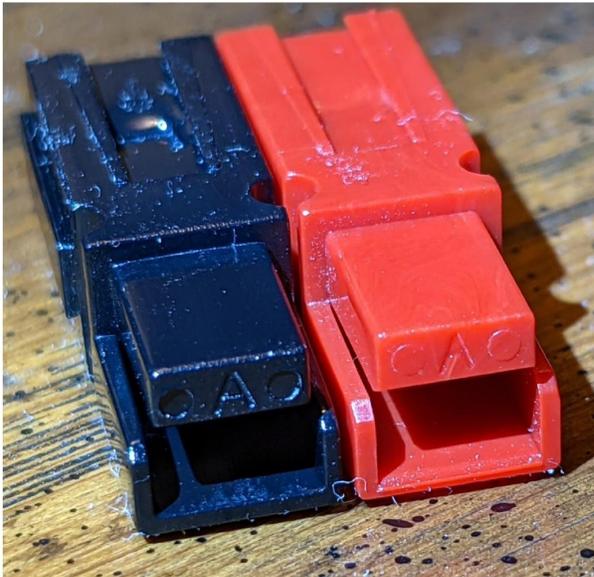
There's an exciting new 2 meter net in the Rockford area. It's the Saturday Night Ragchew Net. We meet on Saturday night at 8:00 on 146.610. We have rotating net control stations with KC9CCR, KD9HKX, K9KZT and W9JTC taking turns. The Net Control usually suggests some topics and as we go through the round table a couple of times new ideas are introduced. All stations welcome! Come join us! Submitted by K9KZT

INSTALLING “ANDERSON POWERPOLE” CONNECTORS

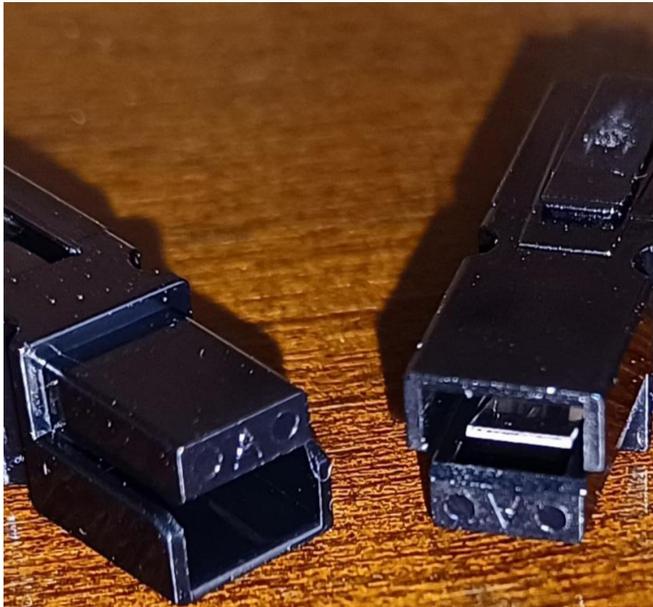
Anderson Powerpoles are a convenient way of safely connecting 12 volt DC power to Amateur Radio equipment. Connections are made with interlocked red and black plastic components. Equipment can be quickly and safely plugged or unplugged from a power strip with little risk of making a mistake that might blow a fuse or damage a piece of equipment.



This commercial terminal block is made up of 6 sets of Anderson Powerpoles. One pair of cables plugged into any of those 6 will carry the 12 volt Power Supply to all of the remaining 5 terminals. Each additional pair of Anderson cables plugged into these available terminals will then carry that 12 volt power to another piece of equipment like a radio or tuner.



Notice that the front edge of each red and black Anderson Powerpole (AP) will have a capital letter “A” embossed in the plastic to indicate it is an “Anderson” product. These embossed letters are the best way to be sure your cables are being assembled correctly.



As an example, the embossed "A"s on these two black APs are shown positioned so that either one can be inserted into the other. The "A"s on each AP are in the opposite position so the two connectors can be plugged into one another.

Notice the metal that is visible in the AP on the right. It is the "Capture Spring" that secures the electrical connector when it is inserted into the back of the plastic housing. You will learn more about it later.



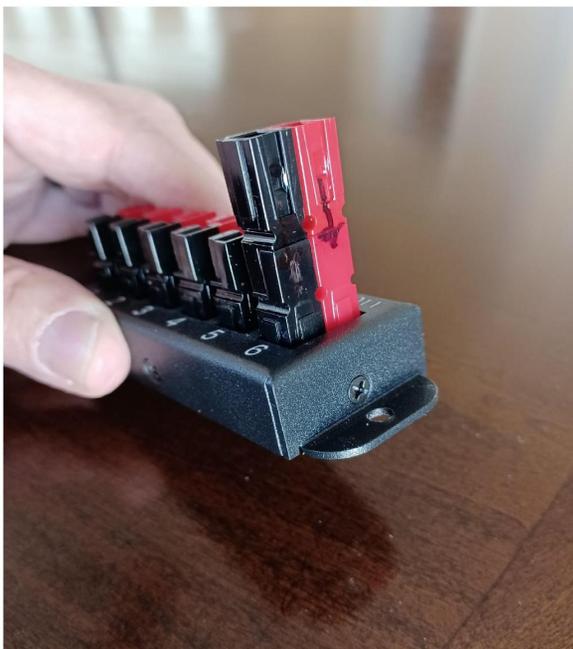
To be sure you have each pair of APs correctly positioned, take an empty pair and insert them into the target terminal strip or cable as you begin your project.



Once inserted, each Red and Black plastic piece can be marked so all the parts can be removed and later reassembled into the same position.

Of course, when plugging a pair of AP connectors into another pair of connectors, the red and black colors must match the colors of the cables to the colors of the AP connectors.

Red-to-red and black-to-black. This will make sure that the polarity of the DC voltage will be maintained in all your projects. Since most hams will follow that same standard, you can be confident at field day or other events.



For ham radio and most other applications, the position of the two connectors is very important. This position requires that the PLUS 12 volts be on the right side (red) of the connector when looking INTO the "A", active end.

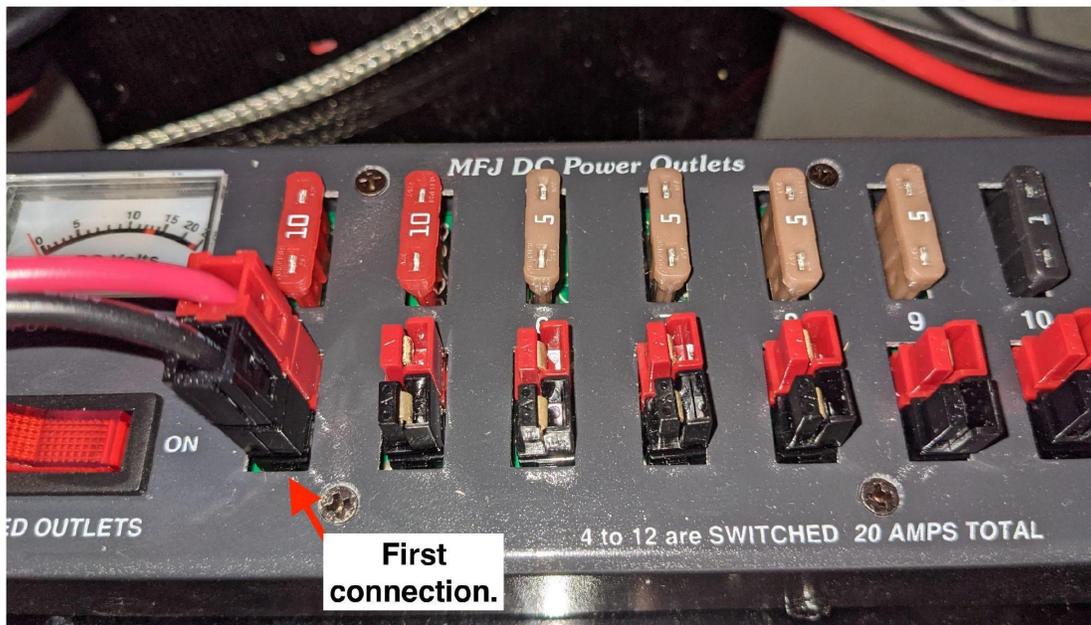
The MINUS 12 volts is on the left, or black side.

Remember, "Red is Right" when you are assembling these units AND are looking into the "A" end of the AP connectors.

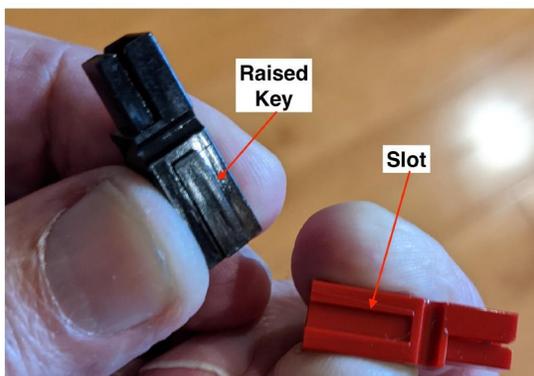
This protects you from accidentally crossing your 12V connections as long as you maintain the "industry standard" Red-Right on every cable or device on which you install Anderson connections.

Below you see an "MFJ 12" commercial power strip that uses Anderson connectors. It shows a pair of red and black wires inserted into a position in the strip. This position also has a 10 amp fuse on that circuit. Each remaining circuit on the power strip has a pair of connectors with the active ends facing up. As mentioned previously, the set of Anderson connectors on the pair of cables inserted must have their two connectors with the letters "A" in the reverse position to enable the set of connectors to physically mate with the Anderson connectors mounted in the MFJ strip.

Note that each new position has a separate fuse. The fuses can be changed based on the 12V load requirements of the device being plugged into that position. Note that this MFJ unit cautions that the total current load should not exceed 20 amps for all the equipment plugged in.



If you are making up Anderson cables for a power strip like that shown above, plug in a pair of empty plastic red and black shells into your power strip initially so that the correct position for the embossed letter "A" is determined before building cables to be inserted.



Once the correct position is determined, mate the Red and Black shells together using the slots on their sides. Here you see the flat sides on each of the shells.

The raised Key on the side of the Black shell is designed to slide into the Slot on the side of the Red shell.



With the shells properly positioned, slide the two shells together until the "A" active ends are FLUSH on the end so the electrical connections will be solid. Because of the tight fit, you may need to gently **tap the back ends** until the front ends are flush.



The middle section of this box holds the metal electrical connectors that are crimped on the electric cables before insertion into the Anderson shells. These metal connectors are then inserted into the back of the Red and Black shells.

This box has 15 amp rated connectors. Other size connectors are available for 30 and 45 amp loads. When building an AP circuit, all the components must have the same amperage capacity. Once a circuit is built, it can be difficult to see the components inside.

The plastic Anderson shells will accept any of the three electrical connectors.
The metal electrical Connectors that go inside the AP housings have a curve, or tongue, at the front end. Be sure the curve is down in the crimp tool when attaching the Connector.



The Crimp ends are sized based on the gauge of the wire required.

14 to 10 gauge for up to 45 AMP loads.

16 to 12 gauge for up to 30 AMP loads.

20 to 16 gauge for up to 15 AMP loads.

Be sure you select the gauge of wire to match the amperage load of Connector in your design since the Connector will not be visible once inserted into your AP.

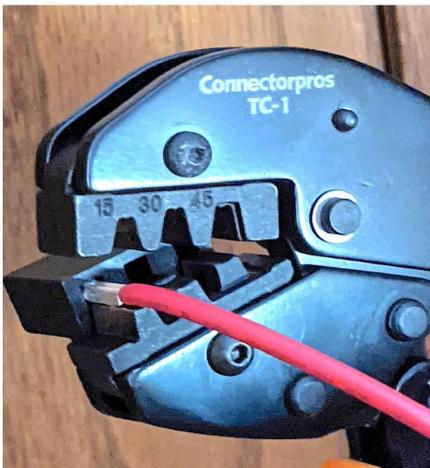


When plugging one AP into another, several problems can occur if the stripping of the wires exceeds $\frac{3}{8}$ of an inch. On the left side, note the length of the center-conductor places it very close to interfering with the CONTACT POINTS between the two connectors.

In addition, the amount of exposed conductor on the right side is too great as well. Little to no center-conductor should be visible at the back of a finished plastic AP body. Exposed wire could result in contact with the operator's skin when the connectors are plugged in or unplugged.



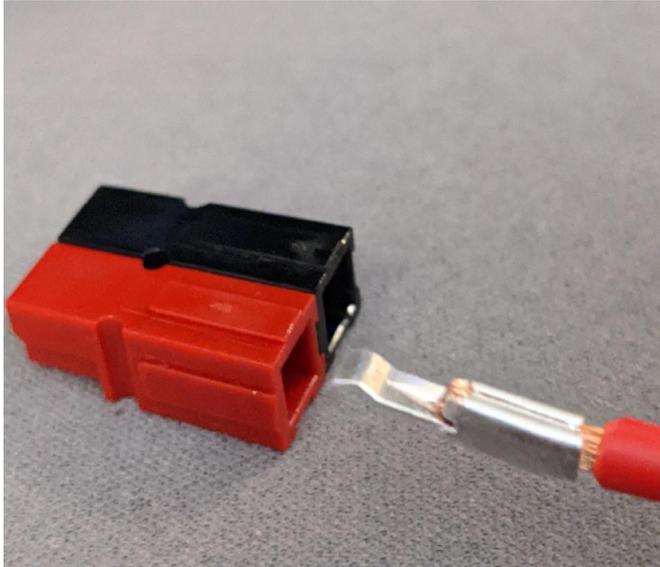
This Crimp Wrench has slots marked for each of the three-sized electrical connectors. The tongue is placed into the Crimp Wrench with the curved end facing down. Once the curved end is properly positioned within the wrench, partially compress the wrench to keep the connector from rotating while the appropriate wire gauge and length of center-conductor are inserted into the barrel for crimping.



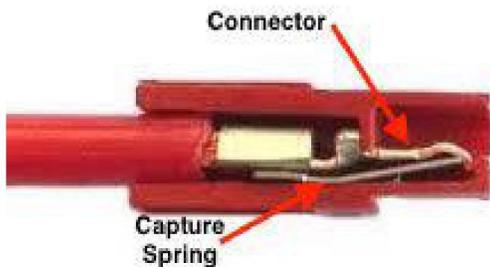
The wire going into the end of this 15 AMP size connector was stripped back 3/8 of an inch.

With this fitting positioned in the correct hole in the crimp wrench, the proper size wire was then inserted into the back of the connector and the crimping action was completed.

The wrench ratchets down to the required crimp pressure to assure a solid connection on the wire. Soldering is not recommended since the wire will increase in diameter and the shape of curved tongue may be distorted by solder residue.



The electrical Connector, which is now crimped on a Red Wire, is ready to be inserted into a Red shell. Be sure the shell is positioned with the embossed "A" upright on the front and the Connector is flat relative to the shell before it is inserted. Repeat this same procedure with the black wire and its electrical connector as well.



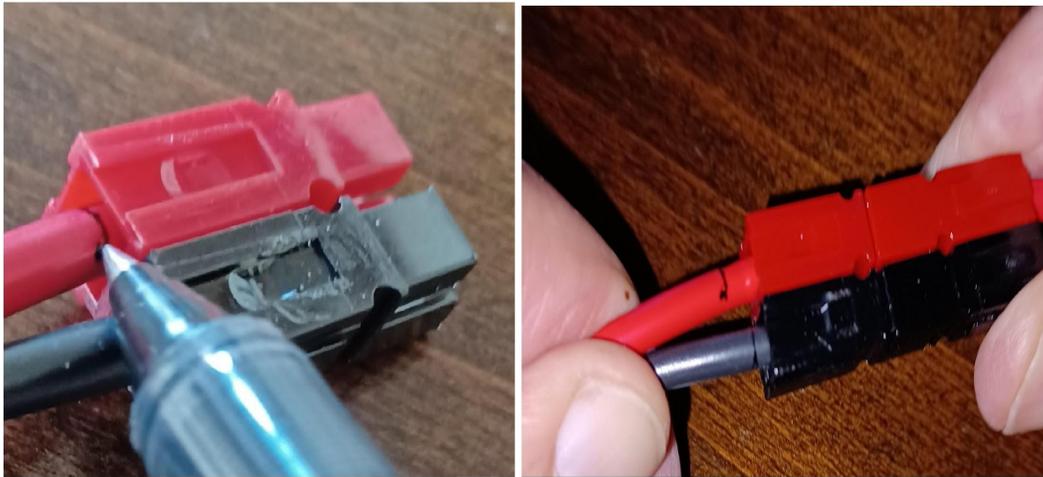
Notice the structure of the built-in "Capture Spring" shown in the cutaway view of the inside of a shell. When inserting a Connector into a shell, be sure both components are flat with no rotation so they can slide over one another properly. As the Connector slides forward the Capture Spring will "click" and the parts will be locked in place. If you do not hear a click, **PULL THE CONNECTOR OUT** and look inside the front to make sure the two parts are level while being assembled.

Some do not want to invest in the Crimp Tool designed for the Anderson Powerpoles. If a pair of conventional crimping pliers are used, it may cause the crimp to be too wide and the Connector can not be inserted correctly and the audible “click” will not be heard from the Capture Spring,

Test all the connections by gently pulling on each wire after it is inserted into its shell to make sure everything is firmly captured. You can also test by connecting the new pair to another pair of Anderson connectors as shown below.

In this test, lines were drawn on the wires. If there is any movement when pulling on a wire or when connecting another pair, you will need to remove the connections and try testing them again after they have been replaced.

Test and retest until everything is secure.



To safely disassemble an AP connector when no power is applied, gently place a small tool like a jeweler screwdriver into the back or front of the Shell to release the Capture Spring from the end of the Connector. If necessary, replace the shell or re-clamp the wires to make sure everything is totally secure in your Anderson connections. Be careful not to bend any of the metal components or it may be necessary to replace them.

++++
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Version 15
All other copyrights are the properties of their established owners.
Other contributors: Myron Mansfield, AA5MY

Local POTA Activations

Hello RARA Members,

Just a note to mention that four of us, Dave Larsen, John Mori, Dennis Johansen and me, Dave Gauger operated POTA on Thurs.

June 2 in Rock Cut Park.

We only operated for an hour or so but we had a very nice time. It really was fun. The rig was my IC-705 on battery power at 5 watts to a 17 foot vertical.

All tolled we worked 12 stations covering 10 states, all on CW, CA to MA and TX to MI.

I would encourage other RARA members to try it, and find out how much fun it can be.

73. Dave Gauger. W9CJS

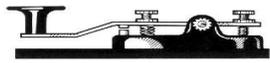


UPCOMING HAMFESTS

KARSFEST 2022

38th ANNUAL HAMFEST

THE KANKAKEE AREA RADIO SOCIETY



W9AZ

Sunday JULY 17th



AMATEUR RADIO - HAMFEST - ELECTRONICS SHOW
Forum Presentations - ARRL - VE Testing - Card Checking

For more info visit the KARS web site at
www.w9az.com

Air Conditioned Indoor Exhibits
Huge outdoor Flea Market
Outdoor Flea Market Paved
ARRL VE Radio License Testing
Time: 10AM to 12PM

(TICKETS and TABLES)
Double Stub ADVANCE TICKETS \$8
Single stub tickets \$10 at the gate

Vendor tables are the
least expensive of all the
Hamfests in the area!

(INDOOR SALES)

Indoor Tables \$10 for the first table, \$8 thereafter
(Tickets and Tables are purchased Separately)
INDOOR VENDORS SET-UP Sat 6-8:00 PM - Sun 6-8:00 AM
BUILDING OPEN TO PUBLIC Sunday 8:00 AM for INDOOR SALES

(OUTDOOR FLEAMARKET SALES (FREE))

GATES OPEN TO PUBLIC and TAILGATERS Sunday 6:00 AM
Free Overnight (Saturday evening) Parking, \$20 with Electric

E-Mail Questions to K9XI at
karsfest@gmail.com
Vendors / Tickets
Ph: (815) 348-7752

For Ticket and Table Requests
Send Request and SASE To:
ART REIS K9XI
308 EASTGATE CT
NEW LENOX, IL 60451
Please ensure mailed requests
are received by July 7th

**ARRL
Representatives
In Forum, 9 AM**

Will County Fairgrounds



LARGE AIR CONDITIONED BUILDING—FREE TAILGATING
Easy to reach I-57 to Peotone Exit 327 (East)

Follow our APRS Beacon **HFEST-17p** - Grid Sq EN61CH
GPS Coordinates 41°19'34.2" N | 87°47'40.2" W

Peotone, IL

2022 RARA Officers and Board

Officers:

President - Kurt Eversole, KE9N, 815-389-2784, kurt.eversole@gmail.com
Vice President - Tom Shouler, N9VJU, 815-633-0089, n9vju@comcast.net
Secretary - Jeff Metters, KD9MEC, 815-670-5506, jeffmetters@gmail.com
Treasurer - Jimmy Curtis, KC9GOL, 779-537-2233, jimhcurtis7818@yahoo.com

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Ron Scott, 815-601-7754, soccerrefl@charter.net
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Repeater License Trustee - Gordon Seaman, KC9NEX, 815-262-0294, kc9nex@gmail.com
Hamrag Editor / Repeater Chairman - Kurt Eversole, KE9N, 815-389-2784, kurt.eversole@gmail.com

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 have any questions contact our treasurer, Jimmy Curtis, KC9GOL, at 779-537-2233, jimhcurtis7818@yahoo.com
Thank you for your support!



2022 RARA Membership Form

Dues are \$15.00

Name: _____ Callsign: _____

Street Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ ZIP: _____

E-mail Address: _____

Phone – Home: _____ Cell: _____

Can we release your e-mail and phone number to members only? Yes _____ NO _____

What things do you like to do with ham radio? _____

What things do you want to do, but need more information to do so? _____

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

Do you have any questions that we can help you with presently? If so, explain below.

Please fill out all the information on the form and mail it with \$15.00 to the following address:

Rockford Amateur Radio Association
P.O. Box 8465
Rockford, IL 61126