

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.

President's Message

Hello Everyone,

Spring has sprung, and I would guess some of you are busy getting some outside projects started. Maybe some antenna changes or additions? You never have too many antennas.

Our program for May will be on FT8, presented by Kerry Tatlow, KD9MAP. FT8 is an interesting mode in that it does not take a lot of power, or huge antennas, but allows us too make digital contacts all over the world. Kerry has a lot of experience and will explain all the in's and out's of setting up and operating FT8. Thanks very much Kerry for your expertise and presentation.

The next RARA activity coming up is Field Day, on June 25-26th. Our Field Day this year will be held at the Roscoe VFW Post 2955, in Roscoe, IL. Field Day is a great event for everyone to get together and demonstrate our ability to operate our radios under adverse or remote locations in times we are called on for communications. I'll be providing more information on our Field Day plans in the June Hamrag. If you have any questions in the meantime, you can call or email me.

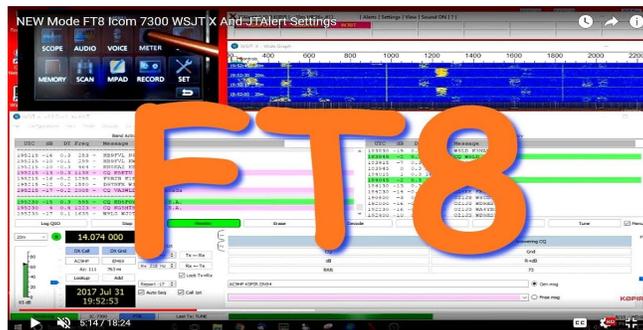
Other RARA activities for the year include being at the CFMC hamfest at the Boone County Fairgrounds in Belvidere this fall (Sept. 25th), and operating in the Illinois QSO Party on October 16, 2022. More details to come.

We will continue to have monthly meetings, and are looking into when and where we can have meetings in person again. We'll keep you posted.

RARA has had about 4-5 more hams join our club in the last month, and we welcome them and appreciate their interest and contributions to our group. If anyone has any questions about RARA or joining, you can contact any of our Board members, or go to our website at w9axd.org.

I hope to see everyone at the Zoom meeting on Friday, and thank you for being a RARA member.

73,
Kurt Eversole - KE9N



May 2022

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NEXT MEETING

FRIDAY
May 13, 2022
7:00 pm

Presentation:

Operating FT8 by
Kerry Tatlow,
KD9MAP

Location:
Zoom Meeting

Zoom Meeting Link:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87308620610?pwd=RmJEVWw5bWhUMTA0WXZINIRMMjBCUT09>



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

News From Around The Globe

FCC Has Resolved Technical Issues and Resumes Processing Amateur Radio License Applications

The ARRL Volunteer Examiner Coordinator (VEC) reports that the FCC Universal Licensing System (ULS) electronic batch filing (EBF) system is back online and functioning normally. A message sent by the FCC ULS EBF Team to VECs explains that the technical issues with ULS EBF filing are resolved, and that VECs may resume submitting files containing amateur radio license applications. ARRL VEC has submitted most of the backlog of its files for applications processed on, or after, April 27, and expects to have all of the backlog submitted by the end of the day (May 9).

ARRL Youth Licensing Grant Program

The ARRL Youth Licensing Grant Program, in effect since April 19, 2022, will cover the one-time \$35 application fee for new amateur radio license candidates younger than 18 years old for tests administered under the ARRL Volunteer Examiner Coordinator (VEC) program.

"We are thrilled that we are able to provide this opportunity to our youth candidates," said ARRL VEC Manager Maria Somma, AB1FM.

The \$35 Federal Communications Commission (FCC) application fee will be reimbursed after the ARRL VEC receives the completed reimbursement form and after the new license has been issued. The reimbursement check will be mailed to the fee payer. Also, candidates younger than 18 years old would pay a reduced exam session fee of \$5 to the ARRL VEC team at the time of the exam. The \$5 fee is for all candidates under the age of 18, regardless of the exam level taken. Proof of under 18 status is required at the session.

The K7RA Solar Update

05/06/2022

www.spaceweather.com reported on May 4 at 0859 UTC that an M5 solar flare erupted from sunspot group AR3004, causing a shortwave radio blackout over the Middle East and Africa.

Solar activity was lower this week, even though we could see sunspots every day. Average daily sunspot numbers dropped from 109.3 to 68.6, while average daily solar flux went from 156 to 120. Average daily geomagnetic indices were only slightly higher, with average planetary A index changing from 9.1 to 10.7, and middle latitude A index from 8 to 9.3. Predicted solar flux looks low for the next month, even dipping below 100 in early June. In fact, from Wednesday to Thursday the predicted solar flux for the first week of the forecast dropped dramatically.

For a comparison, see this week's ARRL Letter at,

<http://www.arrl.org/arrlletter?issue=2022-05-05>.

Predicted values are 118 on May 6-8, then 115, 110 and 112 on May 9-11, then 115, 115 and 120 on May 12-14, 125 on May 15-18, 127 on May 19-20, then 130, 128, 125, and 122 on May 21-24, 118 on May 25-26, then 114 and 110 on May 27-28, 105 on May 29-31, then 102 and 100 on June 1-2, 97 on June 3-5, then 99, 102 and 108 on June 6-8, then 115 on June 9, 120 on June 10, and 125 on June 11-14.

Predicted planetary A index is 5 on May 6, 8 on May 7-8, 5 on May 9-12, then 8, 10 and 8 on May 13-15, 5 on May 16-19, then 12 and 8 on May 20-21, 5 on May 22-23, 18 on May 24, 15 on May 25-27, then 8, 15 and 8 on May 28-30, then 5 on May 31 through June 8, then 8, 1, and 8 on June 9-11.

Weekly Commentary on the Sun, the Magnetosphere, and the Earth's Ionosphere from OK1HH:

"We have seen more of large solar flares this year, but it was usually by night in Europe. On April 30, the first major flare finally occurred during the day, thanks to which we were able to observe the ShortWave Fadeout (SWF) in the western part of the Old World. Solar X-rays caused abnormally high ionization in the ionospheric D region, where attenuation increased significantly. Our shortwave receivers fell silent at 1337 UTC. "The solar flare peaked at 1347 UTC, ending at 1352 UTC. Only then could the attenuation in the ionospheric D region begin to decline and signals other than those coming via ground wave gradually appeared. Solar activity began to rise again mainly due to active area No. 3004, which emerged on May 2, and grew rapidly. "Its magnetic structure became more complex with increased energy, with significant eruptions up to several times a day. In addition, they were often accompanied by type IV radio noise bursts, which indicated that the solar plasma cloud had left the Sun. As Group 3004 is now facing approximately toward us, we can expect at least one of the clouds to hit Earth, causing a disturbance. Perhaps we will see further improvement in the shortwave propagation conditions, during the possible positive phase of its development."

UPCOMING RARA EVENTS

May 25th - RARA Zoom Board Meeting 7:00 pm

June 10th - General RARA Meeting 7:00 pm

June 22nd - RARA Board Meeting 7:00 pm

June 25-26th - Field Day at Roscoe VFW

RARA Facebook Page

If your one of the many people that have a Facebook account, then check out the Rockford Amateur Radio Association Facebook page. See what's going on at this [LINK](#).



Rockford area 2 meter nets:

Monday, RARA Information Net, 7:00 pm
Tuesday, Health and Tech Net, 7:00 pm
Thursday, Health and Tech Net, 7:00 pm
Friday, Friday Night Fun Net, 8:00 pm
Saturday, Saturday Night Ragchew Net, 8:00 pm

All nets are open to all hams! Frequencies are either 146.610(primary) with a "-" offset, and PL tone of 114.8, or 147.195,(secondary) with a "+" offset, and a PL tone of 114.8, depending on condition of repeaters or priority use by Skywarn.

The June Issue of Digital QST is Now Available!

The April edition of *Digital QST* is now available for viewing on your desktop or laptop. Click [here](#) to open the issue. It is also available for reading on your Apple, Android, or Kindle Fire devices.

You must be a member of the ARRL to view this.

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.

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 June 2022 Hamrag will be Sunday, May 29, 2022

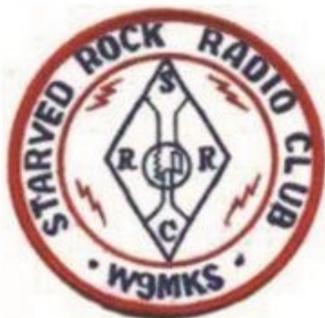
Kurt - KE9N, Editor

UPCOMING HAMFESTS

STARVED ROCK RADIO CLUB

AMERICAN RADIO RELAY LEAGUE SANCTIONED HAMFEST 2022

"Formerly PRINCETON HAMFEST"



HAM RADIO, RC MODELS,
COMPUTER & ALL HOBBIES
FLEA MARKET

AMATEUR RADIO HOBBYIST &
COLLECTORS SHOW

SUNDAY, JUNE 5th 2022

8:00am to 3:00pm



MENDOTA TRI-COUNTY FAIRGROUNDS

<-NEW LOCATION

503 1st Ave, Mendota, IL 61342

ARRL VE TESTING 9:30am to 11:00am
GO-KIT JUDGING (Score sheet at w9mks.org) 11:00am
GRAND PRIZE CASH DRAWING at 2:00pm

TICKETS \$7.00 ADVANCED (2Stubs) or \$8.00 AT GATE (1 Stub)
ALL ADVANCED ORDERS MUST BE RECEIVED BY MAY 26th 2022
GRAND PRIZE WINNERS NEED NOT BE PRESENT TO WIN.

- ✓ LARGE INDOOR EXHIBIT BUILDINGS
- ✓ TABLES \$13.00 ADVANCED OR AT THE GATE WITH FREE ELECTRICITY
- ✓ FREE OUTDOOR FLEA MARKET-TAILGATING AREA
- ✓ ONSITE CAMPING-ELECTRICITY AVAILABLE - FEE BY FAIR BOARD
- ✓ HOURLY DOOR PRIZE DRAWINGS

FOR ADVANCED TICKET AND TABLE SALES OR GENERAL INQUIRIES: SEND A SASE TO
SRRC C/O Hamfest Chairman, PO Box 198, Leonore, IL 61332-0198

E-mail: starvedrockhamfest@gmail.com or see our internet site for latest info www.w9mks.org

I39 to Exit 72 US Rte 34, West to 1st Ave, South(Left) to Fairgrounds on Left.

GPS: N41.545580deg W089.108484 (N41deg 32.735min (44.08sec) W089deg 6.509Min (30.54sec)

TALK-IN by SRRC Repeater W9MKS 147.120 +103.5PL Simplex 146.520

BREAKFAST and LUNCH ON-SITE BY CATERER

To keep Ticket prices down, DO NOT dispose of unwanted equipment on the fairgrounds.

If it doesn't sell or you can't give it away- Take it Home!

MAIL WITH PAYMENT & SASE ENCLOSED TO:

SRRC C/O Hamfest Chairman
PO Box 198
Leonore, IL 61332-0198

Make checks payable to SRRC

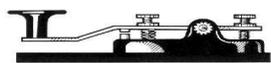
Name: _____	QTY	ITEM	EACH	EXTENDED
Address: _____	_____	Advance Ticket	\$ 7.00	\$ _____
City: _____ State: _____ ZIP: _____	_____	Indoor Table	\$13.00	\$ _____
Phone: _____		Total		\$ _____

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

Directors:

Mark Broman, N9CNW, 815-218-5514, markbroman@hotmail.com
Larry Lisle, K9KZT, 815-397-9595, l.lisle@usa.net
Ron Scott, 815-601-7754, soccerrefl@charter.net
Larry Schubert, AC9GO, 815-624-7772, larry.schubert@gmail.com
Webmaster - Kerry Tatlow, KD9MAP, 815-312-4394, kd9map@gmail.com
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