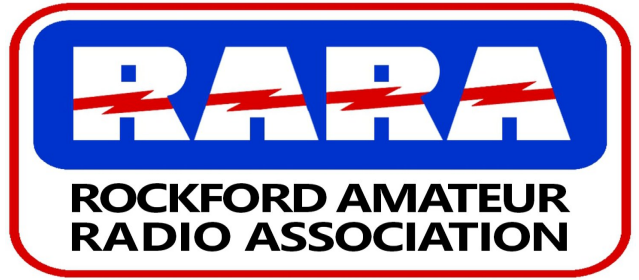


HAMRAG

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.

RARA is a volunteer run organization of individuals donating their time each month to develop activities, maintain repeaters, nets, and education. There are associated expenses and when you become a club member, your dues are providing a service to your community and furthering the hobby of amateur radio.

Welcome New Members:

Greg Kuczek W9VOX and Allan Levandowski

Thanks to this month's contributors to the Ham Rag

Dave Gauger W9CJS, Kerry Tatlow KD9MAP, Larry Lisle K9KZT, Ron Scott WB9PCA, Paul Dean WB9HGZ and Larry Schubert AC9GO

Merry Christmas!

Editor's Note

If you would like to have something published, please call me at 815-505-8170, or email me at w9yum.vs@gmail.com
Articles are welcome and encouraged from all hams.

Due Date for the January 2026 Hamrag is Sun December 28, 2025

73, Verna—W9YUM, Editor

NEXT MEETING

FRIDAY— December 12, 2025 - 7:00pm



**Award Ceremony and
Ham of the Year Presentation
and Holiday Social Prizes! Prizes!**



OSF St Anthony Med Center (Foundation Room-ground/cafeteria level)
5666 East State Street, Rockford

December 2025



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President's Message— Larry McFall, KD9HKX

Happy holidays to all our members and friends,

This is a time of year when many of us will gather with family and friends that we don't see that often, either here or traveling to another city. It's a time of year for reflection on the past year and the year ahead. Some of us will get started on projects that we've delayed since last spring because we simply ran out of time to work on them. Others of us will have this opportunity to spend a lot more time on the air, tracking down those elusive DX stations and having rag-chews with friends across the country. Enjoy this time of leisure.

The proposed new Bylaws were unanimously passed by those present at the November monthly meeting. Many members at the meeting agreed, with the board, that the governing rules of RARA needed to be modernized and also necessary for the club to attain 501(c)(3) status. I want to personally express my gratitude to Dan Larson, KD9SAZ and Verna Schubert, W9YUM for the immense effort they put into the first draft of the new bylaws.

The meetings in January, February, and March will be virtual meetings. Although if we had known what the weather would be like this December we may have opted for a virtual meeting in December. (And that could still happen if the weather gets too bad.) We have some really good programs that we've planned for January, February, and March, so I hope that you'll continue to join us virtually for those meetings. During this past year we've had a lot of very good presentations and we hope to continue having great in-person presentations starting in April.

I'm happy to report, with the government shutdown over, the FCC is back in operation. We just received notice a day or so ago, that Doug Passmore, KE9CNS, has been confirmed as the club license trustee. If any of you were waiting for licenses or upgrades you should be receiving those in the very near future.

I hope all of you had a great Thanksgiving, and I wish all of you a merry and happy Yuletide.

73, Larry McFall, KD9HKX

RARA Board and Local Nets

Tuesday, December 9, 2025 RARA Board Meeting 7:00pm on Google Meet
Friday, December 12, 2025 RARA Membership Meeting 7:00pm OSF St Anthony

2025 RARA Officers and Directors

Officers:

President - Larry McFall, KD9HKX, 815-900-1820, lpmcfall@charter.net

Vice President - Matt Marshall, W3MBX, 815-222-5959, matthew.marshal@gmail.com

Secretary - Jamie Cook, W9JTC, 779-423-9054, W9JTC@yahoo.com

Treasurer – Verna Schubert, W9YUM, 815-505-8170, w9yum.vs@gmail.com

Directors:

Jimmy Curtis, KC9GOL, 779-537-2233, jimhcurtis7818@yahoo.com

Dan Larson, KD9SAZ, 312-292-1989, kd9saz@gmail.com

Mike Richardson, KB9SSV, 815-616-0200, kb9ssv@msn.com

Tom Shouler, N9VJU, 815-978-6476, n9vju@comcast.net

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Webmaster - Verna Schubert, W9YUM, 815-505-8170, w9yum.vs@gmail.com

Repeater License Trustee - Doug Passmore, KE9CNS, 815-979-9229, dgpssmore@att.net

Repeater Chairman - Matt Marshall, W3MBX, 815-222-5959, matthew.marshal@gmail.com

Local Net Information

Mon - 7:00pm - RARA Info. Net & CW Lesson, 146.610 (-0.6) offset, pl 114.8

- 8:00pm - McHenry County RACES Net, 146.835 (-0.6) offset, pl 91.5

Tues - 7:00pm - RARA Tuesday Night Net & CW Lesson , 146.610 (-0.6) offset, pl 114.8

- 7:30pm - Rock County Public Service Net, 145.450 (-0.6) offset, pl 123.0

Wed - 7:00pm - Chat Net, 146.610 (-0.6) offset, pl 114.8

- 7:00pm - Stephenson County ARES Net, 147.390(+0.6) offset, pl 114.8

- 7:30pm - Greater Beloit Radio Net, 147.120 (+0.6) offset, pl 123.0

Thu - 7:00pm - Northern Illinois Skywarn Training Net, 147.195 (+0.6) offset, pl 114.8

Fri - 8:00pm - Friday Night Fun Net, KC9GCR, 146.610 (-0.6) offset, pl 114.8

Sat - 8:00pm - RARA Ragchew Net, 146.610 (-0.6) offset, pl 114.8

- 8:00pm - Pink Hamsters YL Net, Milwaukee 146.910 (-0.6) offset, pl 127.3

- 9:00pm - Saturday Night Fun Net Milwaukee 146.910 (-0.6) offset, pl 127.3

Mon. thru Friday - 8:00am to 9:00am - Senile Net, 14.287 (HF USB)

Key Dates to Save!

December: Time to renew your RARA membership for 2026. The form can be found on the website W9AXD.org, in the “files” section of the Facebook group and will be emailed to members. Thank you for your past support and ongoing support and thanks to those of you already sending in your dues. Note: returning members, please make sure to submit the form each year as it is a great double check to make sure we have your current information and the new form captures information to us know more about the membership.

RARA is 93 strong and growing— good things are coming thanks to many volunteers and your continued membership!

Friday, December 12, 7:00pm—Monthly Membership Meeting (all welcome)

The program will be the awarding of the Ham of Year and recognition of the contributions of others throughout the year. Come and celebrate RARA and enjoy each others company along with refreshments and prizes! See you there!

Please note: January, February, and March Meetings will be held virtually on google-meet. A link will be emailed to members prior to the meeting.

Contest: ARRL 10-Meter Contest

Dates: **Second full weekend in December (12/12—12/14, 2025)** The contest begins 0000 UTC on Saturday and runs through 2359 UTC on Sunday (6pm Friday—5:59pm Sunday). The objective is for Amateurs worldwide to exchange QSO information with as many stations as possible on the 10-meter band. Great opportunity for technicians!

Note: you do not need to be an ARRL member to participate. You can find the full rules here: <https://www.arrl.org/10-meter>

December is YOTA (Youth on the Air) Month!

During the entire month of December, many young hams around the world will be active with YOTA as the suffix in their call signs. In the US, look for 1x1 special event calls and regular call signs. You can use this direct link to the DX cluster (already filtered) to spot active stations during the December YOTA month: tinyurl.com/45bfzd58

RARA members—please be sure the email address you provide is one you check regularly to make sure you receive club updates and the monthly Hamrag.

Don't forget to let us know if there are changes to your email or phone number, ARRL membership status, or call sign.

Please email updates to Verna W9YUM at w9yum.vs@gmail.com & add me to your contacts.

Key Dates to Save!



Winnebago County
SKYWARN

A Division of Rockford Amateur Radio Association

WHEN:
Jan 24th, 2026
10 am

WHERE:
OSF St. Anthony's Hospital
Foundation Room-lower level
5666 East State Street, Rockford, Illinois

Join us for the NEW Winnebago County SKYWARN/ Emergency Services committee project for 2026.

WWW.WINNEBAGOCOUNTYSKYWARN.COM

WINNEBAGO CO.

SKYWARN: IS AN ORGANIZATION OF AMATEUR RADIO / GMRS OPERATORS AND SEVERE WEATHER ENTHUSIASTS WITH INTERESTS IN SEVERE WEATHER SPOTTING THAT USE RADIO COMMUNICATIONS AS A PUBLIC SERVICE.

WHO CAN ATTEND?

Anyone interested in storm spotting

TRAINING:

Once a member of Winnebago Co. SKYWARN, You will be expected to attend NWS Spotter training classes when needed to stay current, and participate in monthly meetings / Training NETS .



Ho! Ho! Ho! Santa's on Ham Radio

[Home](#) [About](#) [Check In](#) [Santa's List](#) [Live Stream](#)



The **Santa Net** is held on scheduled evenings between Thanksgiving and Christmas on 3.916 MHz at 7:00PM Central Time (check-ins open 1/2 hour before). Use the "home" link about for the full schedule or go to cqsanta.com.

Share the magic of Ham Radio and Santa Claus with your children, grandchildren, and neighborhood kids.



Blast from the Past
December 1977 Ham Rag

Ham Rag

Rockford Amateur Radio Association

DECEMBER 1977



It's Only Money by Dave, W9CJS

We Hams are all about electricity... RF electricity to be sure but we tend to be more concerned about the KW h output of our linear rather than AC power drawn from the wall socket.

A big linear usually requires a 240v split phase line to the Ham Shack. The main fuse box may also require replacement with one having greater capacity, perhaps 200 Amps or more.. These are necessary replacements perhaps consider them as cost-of-living necessities, which they may be.

Most of our power usage is intermittent, lighting, the refrigerator only runs when needed and same with the furnace and A/C, but there are some smaller loads which run 24/7 and surprised me when I did some quick calculations yielded the following YEARLY energy usage.

I HAVE:

Five LED night lights drawing 1.5 watts each on 60% of the 24 hour day	= 66 KW h
Two TVs each have remote start, which draws 2 watts quiescent	= 35 KW h
Two porch lights 15 watts each which run 12 hours per night	= 131 KW h
A Cardiac monitor modem which uses 20 watts, 24 hours a day	= 175 KW h
My WIFI modem is rated at 36 watts and runs 24 hours a day	= 315 KW h
A Medical emergency modem uses 30 watts and runs 24 hours a day	= 262 KW h
Cell fone chargers(2) supply 5.7 v at 0.7A and run 10 hours a day	= 29 KW h
Remotely controlled Zenith Radio 1.2 watts when off and quiescent	= 11 KW h
CO detector 2.4 watts runs 24 hrs a day 365 days a year	= 21 KW h
Cordless phone system (4) plus main box 12 watts	= 105 KW h
Furnace controller transformer draws 6 watts	= 53 KW h

I've probably forgotten a few items but total drain 24 hrs/365 days a year is = 1193Kwh

*Com Ed charge is about \$0.24 per KW h so the above total yearly cost is = \$286
This may not sound like a lot but it is \$5.51 per week.*

You say, "Hey, Com Ed advertises electrical power as costing \$8.2 cents per KW h but they're charging me \$20.6 cents per KW h When you add in delivery charge and taxes and fees, it adds up.

It's Only Money by Dave, W9CJS

DEFINITION

POWER (WATTS) IS THE RATE WITH WHICH WE USE ENERGY (kWh)

It is informative to use instruments to measure electrical energy use by various loads in the house or in the shop or ham-shack.

AMPROBE

These are a clip on, reading of current with several sensitivity ranges. You cannot clip around a power cord and read anything, you must split the 'hot' wire out from the neutral and ground in order to read. The "hot" wire produces a magnetic field, but the neutral wire carrying the return produces an exact opposite field which cancels the original field. This instrument reads one or the other but not both simultaneously.



LINE SPLITTER

This is a convenient device for separating the wires for reading and at the same time providing for 1x readings or 10x readings. Use of the 10x allows readings down in the low milli-amp range. The AMPROBE clips into which ever opening meets the need for full scale sensitivity.

MULTI-MODE READER

These types of devices read a number of electrical parameters such as voltage, current, watts, and source frequency. Additionally, it will total KW hours of energy used by a given device, even if it cycles intermittently. This device plugs in the wall and your item to be measured plugs into it.



*In closing, a 60 watt lamp in the garage left on over night burns 1.44 kWh of energy
A piece of toast in a 1200 watt toaster for 90 seconds burns about 0.03 kWh.
Interesting calculation ...try some, you may be surprised as I was..*

Dave Gauger

AI and Me, and Maybe You Too, by Kerry KD9MAP

I'm a STEM geek and a 'lifelong learner.' I spend some of my leisure time reading and studying various subjects in science, engineering, and math, because I am mysteriously compelled to do so, and can't stop myself :)

Having been a computer programmer since 1970, I've seen the progression of AI, and the wildly changing definitions of what an AI might be, and what we expect from it. In the past few months, I've been profitably using Grok to assist me in my studies.

The big thing that has changed in AI history recently is that AI has matured to the point of being an actually useful tool which can boost your productivity. It boosts mine, definitely.

Here are some things I've found out about working with Grok.

- It "knows" more about STEM than any single human alive. By "knows," I mean that it has nearly the entire corpus of human scientific published output at its fingertips.
- It can be used effectively as a tutor/teacher in STEM. Any time I use it on cracking a problem, I learn something new from what it teaches me along the way.
- It can write surprisingly useful and good-quality code from plain English specifications, lightning fast. It can write code at least a thousand times faster than I can.
- It is more productive to work with than ANY human colleague I've ever encountered in all of my experience, ever.
- Sure it makes mistakes, just as humans do. But if I point out its mistake, it freely acknowledges the error and works to correct it! Humans can do that, sometimes, but very often they hide or deny their mistakes. In my experience, humans usually react **poorly** to having their mistakes pointed out, to say the very least!
- Sometimes it takes a 'wrong' approach to solving a problem, and gets wrapped up in pursuing it fruitlessly. In the two occasions that that has happened so far, I tell it so, and suggest we start afresh, and it cheerfully agrees and does it, and then we make great progress.

If I have a question about STEM, or technical hobbies like ham radio and electronics, I find it far quicker to get a good, reliable, and simply better answer from Grok, than by trying to look it up in a book, a conventional websearch, or asking a human. It is now generally better to use Grok in place of old conventional websearch like Google Search. It makes web search seem like a waste of time, just like searching an old library 'card catalog' now seems a waste of time.

AI and Me, and Maybe You Too, by Kerry KD9MAP

Based on my experience with Grok so far, I make the following assertions:

- AI will inevitably be adopted in the white-collar working world, whether you like it or not. I'm pretty sure we're in an adapt-or-die situation with regard to AI and white-collar employment. I'll put it another way: if you are interviewing for a STEM job, and the interviewer asks what you think about AI, don't answer "Nah, it's just a fad and it won't last." I'll put it another way: coding used to be a great, well-paid career choice. It probably won't be a good career choice from now on.
- Just like all our tech, AI will advance rapidly in performance and efficiency. For example, free-version Grok currently can't 'see' the contents of a diagram or chart; the contents need to be described to it. I expect this limitation to be gone soon. The AI hardware will improve too, in speed, power requirements, and energy efficiency.

I am a Born Skeptic. I generally don't believe anything without substantial proof. I see lots of skepticism about AI, and that's good. What's not good is insisting it must be bad, **and then refusing to even at least try it**. It is so easy to try, and costs you nothing to do so. Don't be afraid of finding it actually useful.

Some of the skepticism and criticism of AI I've heard includes:

- It will take over or destroy humanity.
- Its power consumption will overwhelm the grid.
- Its creators want to spy on us and control our minds.
- It's just a fad.
- "I'm such a hot-shit engineer that AI can NEVER replace me!" "It's not really-real intelligence."

Any or all of the above objections could be perfectly true. I simply don't know. But they are all irrelevant to the message I am trying to convey: It **IS** now actually useful. It **IS** worthwhile for you to at least try it before condemning it. For good or ill, it **WILL** impact our lives, and our career paths.

73 DE KD9MAP

This and That



Putting together a monthly newsletter is not an easy task as editors before me all know!

Trying to keep it relevant and interesting to a group of hams with varied interests and age range can be challenging and at times a lot of fun!

The Ham Rag is not possible without the contributions of members, like you, along with others. I appreciate all of the contributors and hope others will be inspired to send in articles, updates, just tidbits of what you are doing in the world of radio.

I would like to thank the following individuals for their contributions to the newsletter over the two-years I have been editor.

John NG9M, Dave W9CJS, Larry AC9GO, Larry K9KZT, Joe K9JPP, Bill K0SDZ, Matt W3MBX, Chuck K9LC, Bob W9EWZ, Jon AC9YE, Chris N9OEG, Larry KD9HKX, Kerry KD9MAP, Kevin N9EGF, Paul WB9HGZ, Kurt KE9N, August KC9IXD, Ron WB9PCA.

Special contributor Bob Witte, K0NR (HamRadioSchool.com), thanks to the ARRL for permission for QST and On the Air article reprints from our published members.

From Freeport Illinois:

The Friday Night Fun Net with Jimmy Dorsey, KC9GCR

Every Friday at 8PM Central Time
K9RFD Repeater 147.195, Rockford Illinois

Live Streamed on the
Kerry Tatlow YouTube Channel

[Link Here to Kerry's YouTube Channel](#)

Naval Radio Transmitting Facility by Paul Dean WB9HGZ

Editor's slip up! My apologies to Paul and to our readers. This information page should have been included in the Nov. issue as a companion to the NSS Visit article submitted by Paul.

Naval Radio Transmitting Facility - Annapolis, Maryland

History - The land that encompasses the Naval Radio Transmitting Facility was known as "Hammond's Inheritance" and was purchased by the U.S. Government for use as the Naval Academy Dairy Farm in 1909. Between 1911 and 1917, portions of the land served as Naval Aviation Camp, Greenbury Point. Concern during World War I about loss of communications between Europe and the United States resulted in the construction of High Powered Radio (T) Station Annapolis, commissioned in 1918. The station used two 350,000 watt Poulson Arc Converter Very Low Frequency Transmitters. These transmitters were replaced in 1938 with a RCA type TBJ VLF Transmitter. High, Medium, and Low Frequency transmitters were also added to the station in the late 1930's. During World War II the station expanded to the area now covered by the Naval Academy Golf Course. In 1953 the station became a component of Naval Communications Station, Washington, D.C. The existing VLF transmitter, an ANTRT-S7 built by Continental Electronics, replaced the TBJ in 1969. In 1976 the station was renamed Naval Radio Transmitting Facility, a component of Naval Communications Area Master Station, Atlantic. That same year all High and Medium Frequency transmitters were removed and the land holdings were reduced almost back to the station's original size.

Mission - The mission of Naval Radio Transmitting Facility Annapolis is to operate and maintain those facilities, equipment, devices and systems necessary to provide reliable communications for the command, operational control, and administration of the Naval establishment ashore and afloat, and to perform such other functions as may be directed by the Commanding Officer.

Tasks - Naval Radio Transmitting Facility Annapolis has one AN/FRT-S7 VLF transmitter and three AN/FRT-7Z LF transmitters. The VLF transmitter is capable of four channel VERDIN operation with a primary commitment to minimum shift keying (MSK) operation. The primary commitments for the LF transmitters are LANT SUB BCST and TACAMO LF air-to-ground contingency communications system. These tasks function as a subset of the NCTAMS LANT Area Operations mission in support of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, USCINCLANT and COMSUBLANT.

Communications Capability - Assets at the Naval Radio Transmitting Facility Annapolis consist of a diversified connectivity between the BCA, Alt BCA, strategic and tactical Atlantic communications commands, and the facility. This connectivity is directed to the VERDIN/ISABPS processing equipment. Upon completion of information processing, the processed signal is directed to either the VLF or LF transmitting terminal equipment. The VLF transmitting equipment consists of a keyer, Intermediate Power Amplifier, Power Amplifier, RF Tuning and Switch, and a Modified Goliath Antenna System consisting of a 1200 foot tower and nine 600 foot support towers, with a TOPHAT antenna array. The LF transmitting equipment consists of (three each) keyers, Intermediate Power Amplifiers, Power Amplifiers, a Delta Matrix antenna switch assembly, one 800 foot tower and ONE Marconi (Triatic) array.

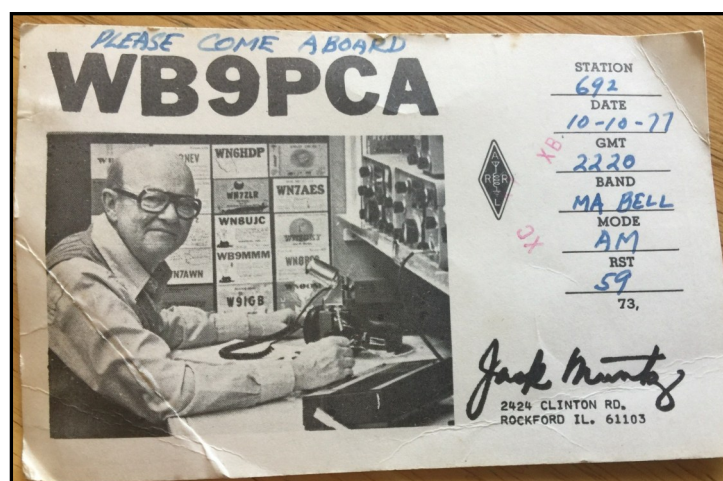
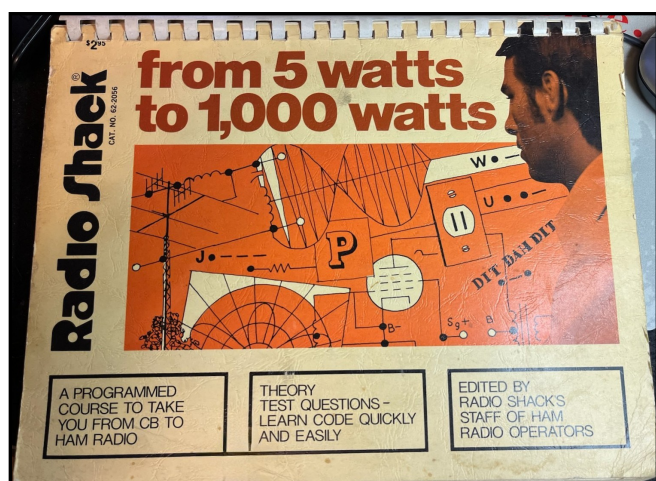
(FY 92 Information)

Radio Memories From the Mail Bag

Jack Muntz, WB9PCA, was the man that got me interested in ham radio. He even gave me a CW key to practice with. Well.....42 years later I did get my license. I was looking in the FCC site and found that his call sign was available so I requested it and received it I honor of my friend, Jack.

The Please Come Aboard came from when we sailed a Sailboat on Lake Geneva and he said that when he gave his call sign it was easier to say "Please Come Aboard" than "Papa Charlie Alpha".

I still have the 1974 Radio Shack, "from 5 watts to 1,000 watts", spiral bound-manual instruction manual he gave me. *Ron Scott, WB9PCA*



From Paul Dean WB9HGZ in response to the 610 repeater update—

Congratulations! The repeater has come a long way since I first used it. I can still remember accessing it in the late 70s with my crystal-controlled Sideband Engineers SB-144 either mobile or in the house with a motorcycle battery! Had an actual Bell System Touch Tone pad in an external box for accessing the autopatch. Having a phone in your car was a big deal in those days!

In the early 80s, Lee Shelain, W9ZZL, a retired fellow, started the morning "Labor Net". He would be on every weekday morning to chat with those commuting to work. He was also on the 6 meter net nearly every night with his converted Heath AT-1 transmitter, Hallicrafters "Sky Buddy" receiver with Ameco converter and a "Finco beam" antenna.

Hearing these sorts of things from RARA always brings back good memories. Thank you!
73, Paul WB9HGZ

From the Workbench by Larry AC9GO



If you want to do any soldering, and for hams it is almost essential that we do some, you need the right equipment. Even you don't plan to do any kit building, every once in a while you will end up soldering a PL 259 onto a coax, or install a grounding system for your shack, or find a wire that has come loose for a switch somewhere. You get the idea.

I suggest a temperature-controlled soldering system. It gives you better control of your iron and, trust me, the more control you have the easier it is to do any soldering job. You can set it and it will stay at temperature no matter what you are soldering, so if you go from an IC to a big transformer that's going to suck away the heat, the temperature will stay the same or at least close to it. If this option is outside of your budget, there is also less expensive option. If you check around the net you can find variable solder irons that control the current to the head and not the temperature. In this case you may want to go from an IC to that heavy transformer and adjust the current it will take to solder and maintain the temperature. This type of iron can be purchased for around \$20. If you don't plan to do a lot of soldering and don't want to put a lot of money into it, this will still be much better than a pencil iron with no control.

The other thing I would recommend is to use 63/37 rosin core solder. For most things a medium size will work just fine. This is a lead solder, and if you have any problem with lead don't use it, or work on any of the older radios because they will have used lead based solder. I worked with it for over 40 years with no affect but everyone's body is different. The problem is that silver solder uses a very high temperature to melt and it can destroy a circuit board or plastic parts close to a solder joint. It is just plain nasty to work with. I don't recommend that you breath in the fumes when you solder. Just work in a well ventilated room with a small fan to keep the air stirred up. Soldering was one of the things I enjoyed while working, and it can be rewarding to build something or fix something, and get it to work the way it was intended. Get a controlled iron, some solder, maybe a solder sucker, and practice on an old circuit board or just make a statue out of wire. You'll find where the solder flows best with a little practice, and build something. Have fun with your radio, and your soldering, and have a Merry Christmas and Happy New Year.

"73" Larry AC9GO see you down the log!

Hamfest, Contest and DX Links

Hamfests and Swapfests in Northern IL, Northwest IN, and Southern WI **Click the link**

AMATEUR RADIO EVENTS



THE HAM RADIO COMMUNITY IN ACTION!

Thanks to K9MSG, Kirk Musselman— www.amateurradioevents.com or use link above

No more struggling to find local foxhunts, hamfests, public service/volunteer events and more. **Over 50 events** are all in one place including maps, descriptions, contact links, costs, and more. And, we just added a *Guide for Amateur Radio Volunteers* and a list of worldwide *Amateur Radio History Events* which you can join remotely.

The site will keep updating and expanding to carry more types of events (training, POTA, etc.) so bookmark the site and join us as we bring event organizers and amateur radio operators together to grow the amateur radio community. Please use the contact page to share suggestions, updates, additions, or comments.



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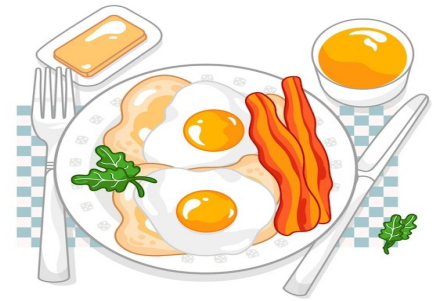
Link to the **WA7BNM Contest Calendar** or go to www.contestcalendar.com

Want to see what's new in the world of DX? Select the link below and make sure you check out the weekly bulletins or go to www.dxworld.net

Powered by ICOM

DX WORLD.net

Local Ham Breakfasts & Social Time



WEEKLY FRIDAY MORNING BREAKFAST

Meets every Friday morning from 7:30 am until about 9:00 am.

We order breakfast at 8:00 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

MONTHLY SATURDAY MORNING BREAKFAST

The Greater Beloit Amateur Radio Club (GBARC) meets monthly on the 2nd Saturday of the month at 8:00 a.m.

Denny’s Restaurant


Flying J Truck Stop (IL 75 & 190/39)

All are welcome to join the group for food and lot’s of “ham” talk.



The RARA Store—Time for Winter Items

The RARA Store has been very well received. Thanks to all of you purchasing shirts, hats, mugs, and more. RARA receives a commission on each purchase made through the online store, what better way to promote RARA and your enthusiasm for amateur radio, all while supporting your club and local business!

To access the store, scan the QR-code below or select this link  [SHOP RARA STORE](https://stores.inksoft.com/rara)

[HTTPS://STORES.INKSOFT.COM/RARA](https://stores.inksoft.com/rara)



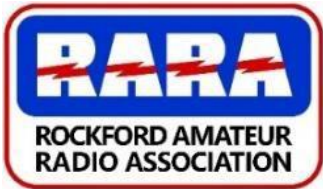
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ASSOCIATION
GEAR TODAY!**



**SCAN
HERE
TO SHOP
NOW**



VIEW MORE PRODUCTS ONLINE



website: w9axd.org
email: w9axdrara@gmail.com

RARA Membership* Form

Dues are \$25.00

*This is an editable PDF Form. Fill in the information with your keyboard,
then save the PDF, and then attach it to an email to: w9axdrara@gmail.com*

For Internet payment: To use PayPal, click on the link below. After clicking "Send" and then logging in, enter \$25.00 in the "Dollar Amount", and click "Send" to complete your payment to RARA.

Click here for the PayPal link 

Mail in information: Fill out all the information on the form and mail it with \$25.00 to the following address:

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

Make your check payable to: Rockford Amateur Radio Association

Thank you for your support!

Date: _____ (mm/dd/yyyy) New Membership Renewal
Name: _____ Callsign: _____ License Class: _____
Street Address: _____ City: _____
State: _____ ZIP: _____ E-mail Address: _____
Phone - Main: _____ Alternate: _____

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

Are you a member of the ARRL (American Radio Relay League)? Yes No

(check all boxes that apply to the following questions)

What type of equipment do you own? Base Mobile Handheld
What band capabilities do you have? HF VHF UHF
What are your favorite operating modes? Voice CW PSK31 FT4/FT8 SSTV
What club activities can you help with? Field Day Hamfest Special Event
Can you operate under emergency power? Yes No
How did you hear about RARA? Other Member Internet Friend Listening on air

I would like to learn more about: Weather Spotting & Skywarn POTA Other (list below)

Other Comments: _____

***Membership is based on approval of the RARA Board. The membership fee will be returned if you are not approved.**