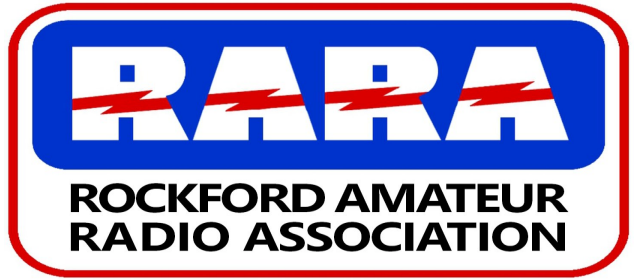


HAMRAG

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.

November 2024

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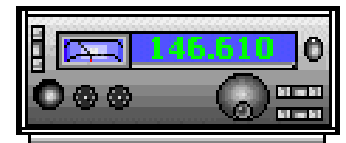
RARA is a volunteer run organization of individuals donating their time each month to develop activities, maintain repeaters, nets, and education. There are associated expenses and when you become a club member, your dues are providing a service to your community and furthering the hobby of amateur radio.

Welcome New Members!

David Bragg, KW9DAB
Ryan O'Connor, KE9AGE
Robert Urban, W9EWZ

NOTE: all new memberships Oct-Dec are effective through December 2025!

Don't miss the monthly meeting.....Friday, 11-8-2024, John Kruk, N9UPC, from Yaesu USA will be making a presentation at the monthly Rockford Amateur Radio Association (RARA) meeting in Rockford. John will be talking about Yaesu System Fusion & Wires-X. John has extensive knowledge of all Yaesu products, and especially System Fusion and Wires-X.



NEXT MEETING

FRIDAY— November 8, 2024 - 7:00pm

**OSF St Anthony Med Center—lower level (Foundation Room)
5666 East State Street, Rockford**

“Yaesu System Fusion and WIRES-X”

Presented by John Kruk N9UPC, Yaesu manufacturer representative

Local Events and Information

November 5, 2024 RARA Board Meeting 7:00pm on Google Meet
November 8, 2024 RARA Membership Meeting 7:00pm

2024 RARA Officers and Board

Officers:

President - Tom Shouler, N9VJU, 815-633-0089, n9vju@comcast.net
Vice President - Larry McFall, KD9HKX, 815-900-1820, lpmcfall@charter.net
Secretary - Larry McFall, KD9HKX, 815-900-1820, lpmcfall@charter.net
Treasurer - Verna Schubert, KD9YUM, 815-505-8170, schubie2@charter.net

Directors:

Dan Larson, KD9SAZ, 312-292-1989, kd9saz@gmail.com
Larry Lisle, K9KZT, 815-397-9595, l.lisle@usa.net
Matt Marshall, W3MBX, 815-222-5959, matthew.marshall@gmail.com
Kevin Puckett, N9EGF, 815-218-1551, krpuckett@gmail.com

Hamrag Editor - Verna Schubert, KD9YUM, 815-505-8170, schubie2@charter.net
Webmaster - Verna Schubert, KD9YUM, 815-505-8170, schubie2@charter.net
Repeater License Trustee - Gordon Seaman, KC9NEX, 815-262-0294, kc9nex@gmail.com
Repeater Chairman - Kurt Eversole, KE9N, 815-389-2784, kurt.eversole@gmail.com

At the October general meeting, the following Board of Directors were elected for **2025**:

President - Larry McFall (KD9HKX)
Vice President - Matt Marshall (W3MBX)
Secretary - Secretary, Joe Perry (K9JPP)
Treasurer - Verna Schubert (KD9YUM)
Director - Jimmy Curtis (KC9GOL)
Director - Dan Larson (KD9SAZ)
Director - Mike Richardson (KB9SSV)
Director - Tom Shouler (N9VJU)

Editor's Note

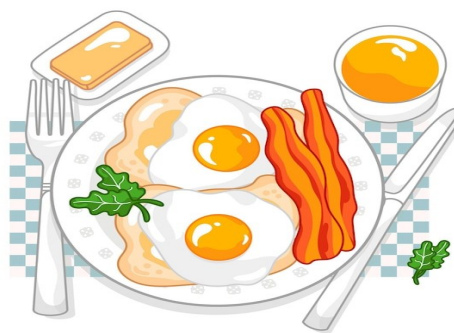
If you would like to have something published, please call me at 815-505-8170,
or email me at vernas.kd9yum@gmail.com

Articles are welcome and encouraged from all hams.

Due Date for the December 2024 Hamrag is Monday, December 2, 2024

73, Verna—KD9YUM, Editor

Local Events and Information



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

Local Net Information

- Mon** - 7:00pm - RARA Info. Net & CW Lesson, 147.195 (+0.6) offset, pl 114.8
- 8:00pm - McHenry County RACES Net, 146.835 (-0.6) offset, pl 91.5
- Tues** - 7:00pm - RARA Tech & Social Net & CW Lesson , 147.195 (+0.6) offset, pl 114.8
- 7:00pm - Rock County Public Service Net, 145.450 (-0.6) offset, pl 123.0
- Wed** - 7:00pm - RARA Chat Net, 147.195 (+0.6) offset, pl 114.8
- 7:00pm - Stephenson Cnty. 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, 147.195(+0.6) offset, pl 114.8
- Sat** - 8:00pm - Saturday RARA Ragchew Net, 147.195 (+0.6) offset, pl 114.8
- 8:00pm - Pink Hamsters YL Net, Milw., 146.910 (-0.6) offset, pl 127.3
- 9:00pm - Saturday Night Fun Net Milw., 146.910 (-0.6) offset, pl 127.3
- Mon. thru Friday** - 8:00am to 9:00am - Senile Net, 14.287 (HF USB)

Feature Article— K9KZT

Introduction to Building simple and Fun Electronic Projects—Larry Lisle, K9KZT

Friends, at the October RARA General Meeting I gave a presentation on one of my favorite ham activities: building. Here are some of the points that were covered.

New hams, after looking inside a piece of modern gear might think, "I can't build something like that!" Well most of us can't. And those neat looking projects you see in QST and books didn't start that way! They started on pieces of wood or electronic breadboards or metal chassis with lots of extra holes and tangles of wire. They were then redone for the camera.

It's possible to have a lot of fun by putting together some simple pieces of ham gear. And learn a lot of electronics in the process. The hand learns faster than the eye or ear!

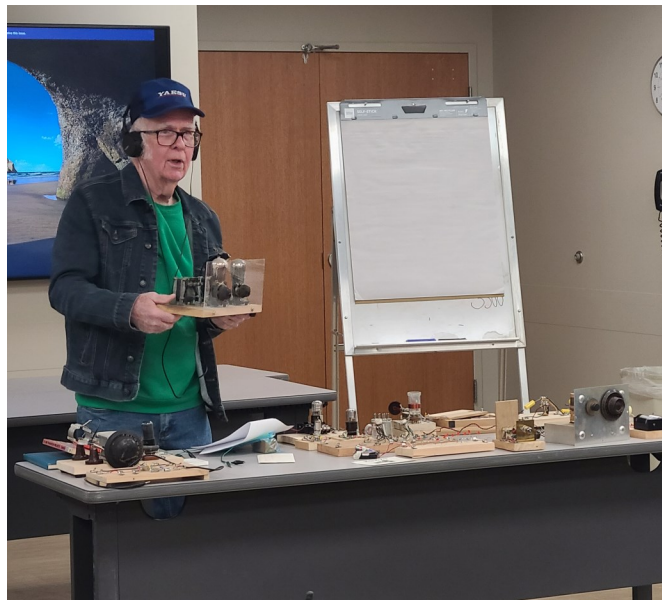
Here I'd like to give some tips for the beginning builder or for someone who would like to start a kid or grandkid into electronics.

First, start simple. Here's a little secret: projects often don't work the first time you flip the switch, even for the pros. "Troubleshooting" is part of the game!

Build something with just a few parts and few connections to start. Don't try to build the project too small! Avoid metal work as much as you can. You can easily wind up spending more time on the chassis than on the electronics and it's hard to make changes without leaving extra holes. Build it in the open so you can easily check everything and change parts.

Use colored wire with red for + and black for - , and another color for bias and another for signal and so on to help tracing the circuit later. Use fahenstock clips or breadboards for connections when possible. Don't cut leads on expensive parts, such as transformers, too short to be used in other projects later.

If beginning with semiconductors I recommend NPN bipolar transistors such as the general purpose 2N2222A to start. NPN transistors and negative ground may be easier to interface with other equipment. You can solder extension wires to the short leads—red for collector, black for emitter, another color for base to make building and circuit changes easier. The LM386 is a good integrated circuit to start with. It's an audio amplifier. IC's can be used with a breadboard or glued upside down to a board and wires soldered to the pins or to a socket — "dead bug" construction."



Feature Article— K9KZT

If experimenting with vacuum tubes use low voltage battery tubes to get used to working with higher voltages. Use 9-volt batteries clipped together for B+ and stick to about 72 volts for safety at first. Most battery tubes are inexpensive and the 3A5 and 3A4 were designed for walkie-talkies in WW2 and are great for portable QRP transmitters. Others like the 1S4, 1U4, 1U5, 3V4 and 1Q5 are also good for receivers. All tube data and pin-outs are on line. Just google the tube name e.g. 1Q5.

A plug in power supply in the 90 to 130 volt range can be made by connecting two inexpensive filament transformers back to back. If going higher, read up on safety procedures in older ARRL Radio Handbooks.

In going on to more complicated projects, build in stages and test each stage when completed. For instance, a simple transistor radio: Build the input tuner on a small board, say nominal 4"x4"x1"; build the detector on another board. Connect an antenna and ground and earphone and you should be able to tune in some weak signals. If you can't find out why before proceeding. Now build a simple amplifier on a third board and attach it between the detector and earphone. The signals should be louder. And so on, adding more stages or modifying what you have for better performance. When done you can glue the boards on a bigger board and add a wooden panel or rebuild the circuit anyway you want!

This may sound silly, but Armstrong's first FM receiver was built exactly this way on tables in a classroom at Columbia University. There's so much more to add, but I'll close by recommending some good books:

THE BOY'S FIRST BOOK OF RADIO AND ELECTRONICS by Alfred Morgan.

A very good introduction to electronics with some simple projects from 1954. On Kindle.

ELECTRONICS FOR THE BEGINNER by J.A. Stanley. Transistor projects from 1971. Uses PNP transistors but you can use NPN by reversing battery polarity and electrolytic capacitor polarity.

125 ONE TRANSISTOR PROJECTS by Rufus P Turner. Bipolar and FET projects from 1970. Circuit diagrams only. Turner wrote many books, all worthwhile. Find them and the above books on ABEBOOKS.COM. OR AMAZON

Also see issues of POPULAR ELECTRONICS from the fifties and sixties. All are on line and have projects of many levels.

For parts try Antique Radio Supply, tubesandmore.com

Mouser Electronics

EBAY

Good building! If I can help my email is:

l.lisle@usa.net

Aurora! Submitted by Rob Urban, W9EWZ

On October 10/11, we had great fun on the vhf and uhf bands working stations off an extraordinary aurora. This was the result of a historically strong solar storm. I was able to make 40 contacts on 144 MHz cw, mostly with east coast stations & one contact in Colorado. The most exciting contacts were on 432 MHz where I logged QSOs with ON, NY, CT and ME.

I came across the following article describing how this severe aurora unfolded, written by Kevin, VE3EN, who is the creator and editor of the solarham.com website and permission has been given to reprint article and photos for use by local clubs.

<https://www.solarham.com/october2024/index.htm>

History:

The first week of October 2024 saw a nice increase in **large sunspot groups visible**, especially in the Sun's southern hemisphere. All eyes were on **active sunspot region 3842** (AR3842) as it had produced two strong solar flares. The first was an **X7.1** on October 1st and the second, an **X9.0** on October 3rd. The latter flare, the strongest of solar cycle 25 at the time of writing, was associated with a **coronal mass ejection** (CME) that would ultimately play a part in a **moderate to strong geomagnetic storm** on October 7-8, 2024.

Meanwhile, a big active region assigned AR 3848 located in the northern hemisphere had been rotating along seemingly not really doing all too much. Suddenly at 01:55 UTC on October 9th, the region unleashed a **powerful X1.8 solar flare**. It soon became apparent that the event was eruptive thanks to **coronal dimming** almost immediately following the flare. In fact, a Type II radio emission with an estimated velocity of 5176 km/s was recorded. Coronagraph imagery **would confirm** a fast moving, halo coronal mass ejection (CME) that appeared squarely directed towards our planet. Aurora enthusiasts took quick notice.

Within only an hour, energetic protons blasted away from the Sun at a high rate of speed **began to stream** past our planet. The minor (S1) radiation storm threshold was reached at 05:05 UTC (Oct 9). Later that same day at 12:40 UTC, the strong (S3) radiation storm level was exceeded. We knew that this event was special and the anticipation began for the highly energetic cloud of plasma to reach Earth.

NOAA Space Weather Prediction Center (SWPC) analyzed the associated CME and at 12:30 UTC (Oct 9), issued a Severe (G4) geomagnetic storm watch for the very next day. Aurora sky watchers were now salivating, hoping for a repeat of the May 2024 geomagnetic storm. Thursday October 10th arrived and ACE EPAM data was showing a gradual particle increase when suddenly around 12:00 UTC **a steep climb** was observed. As an interplanetary shock-wave gets closer, particles will begin to swell much like a tidal wave approaching shore. This signaled that a CME passage was imminent.

Aurora! Submitted by Rob Urban, W9EWZ

Beginning at 14:49 UTC (Oct 10), ACE/DSCOVR satellite data detected a very **sharp solar wind speed increase** from 380 km/s to above 700 km/s. The energetic CME wasted no time and impacted Earth's geomagnetic field less than half hour later.

Within that same hour at 15:49 UTC, a strong (G3) geomagnetic storm was already in progress. And then just as predicted, the storm rapidly intensified to **Severe (G4) storm** status at 16:57 UTC.

Reports out of **Australia** and **New Zealand** just before sunrise local time were quickly pointing to an aurora event full of red color. Over in Europe similar aurora was spotted in **France** after their sunset. Viewers in North America still had several hours of daylight remaining and the wait was **nerve racking**.

Luckily the Bz component of the Sun's magnetic field would **tip sharply south** for a long duration, ultimately reaching a value of -46 nT. This allowed energy to freely interact with Earth's upper atmosphere and promised to extend the storm well into the early morning hours of Friday (Oct 11).

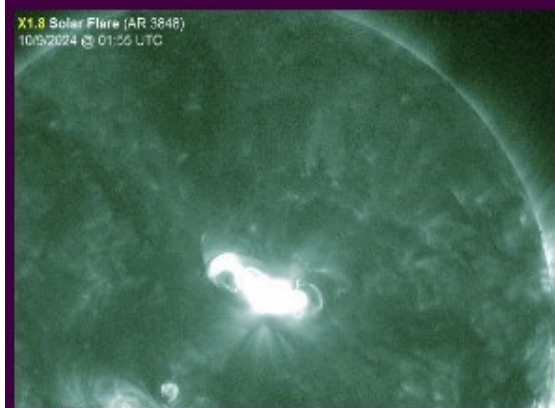
Back to Thursday evening at 23:00 UTC when darkness finally fell on the east coast of North America, reports of vivid pink aurora were already pouring in from **Virginia**, **Rhode Island** and beyond. I did snap a picture from my own cloud covered back yard in Cornwall, Ontario and to my surprise, **pink aurora** was visible through a small clear patch.

My daughter and I, along with my sister and a few friends (Nicole and Monique) drove out into the country in search of clear skies. Finally at 9:22pm local time, **we had aurora**. We then drove to a more secluded area with less road traffic and the skies just exploded with **vivid naked eye aurora**. Thursday night and into Friday morning wound up being an aurora show that everybody was talking about and none of us will soon forget.

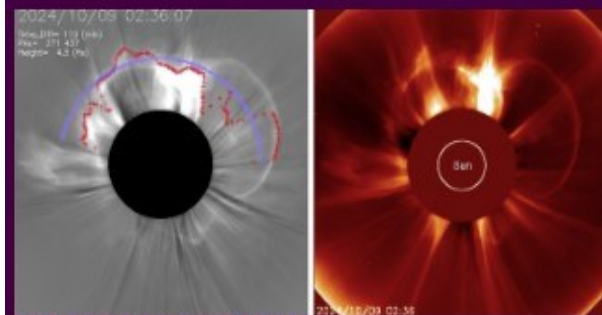
I hope you enjoyed this article. Thanks for reading!
- Kevin (SolarHam) solarham.com



AR 3848 on October 9, 2024
(Credit: SDO/HMI)



X1.8 Solar Flare (AR 3848)
10/9/2024 @ 01:55 UTC
Credit: SDO/AIA.



CME associated with X1.8 flare
(Credit: LASCO C3)

Aurora! Submitted by Rob Urban, W9EWZ

Permission was given by Kevin to reprint his article and any of its photos for use in local club newsletters: Please visit the following link to view the article and full photo gallery.

<https://www.solarham.com/october2024/index.htm>



Kelly Heenan (Ontario)



Leigh Ann Mitchell (Scotland)



Matt Melnyk (Alberta)



Marybeth Kiczenski (Chicago, IL)



Mark Thomas (Illinois)



Sarah M Goodwin (Michigan)

DX Happenings

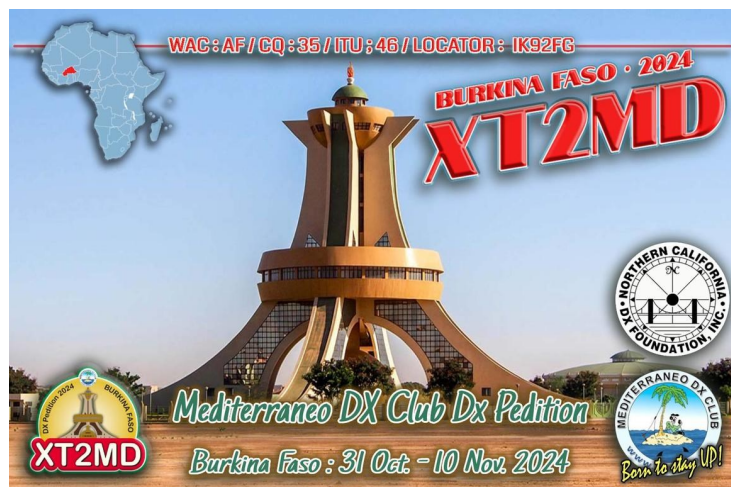
Burkina Faso

XT2MD Team will be active from Burkina Faso October 31-November 11, 2024.

Team I8KHC, IZ4UEZ, IZ2GNQ, DL8JJ, OK2WX, HB9TOC, IU3PMA, F6IRA, YO8PS, DJ5IW.

They will operate on HF Bands and EME.

<https://dxnews.com/xt2md/>



Cocos Keeling Islands

VK9CV will be active from Cocos-Keeling Islands, IOTA OC-003, November 1-15, 2024.

Team—Members of OM7M and CDXP, OM5ZW, OM4AYL, OK6DJ, OK2ZA, OM3PC, OM4MM, OM4MW, VK5GR.

They will operate on 160-10m, CW, SSB, FT8, RTTY and QO-100.

[VK9CV - Cocos Keeling](#)



“Review of Propagation in the First Half of Cycle 25, and forecast for the Second Half of Solar Cycle 25” by Carl Luetzelschwab—K9LA

Date: Tuesday, November 12, 2024

Where: Internet ZOOM Meeting

Time: Informal chat starts at 6:00 PM CST, Business Meeting at 6:30 PM CST, Program at 7:00 PM CST. UTC Time: Informal chat starts at 0000z Nov 13, Business Meeting at 0030z Nov 13, Program at 0100z Nov 13. *Guests are always welcome at MDXC meetings!*

[Madison DX Club](#)

Feature Article - Send Good Code W9CJS

Recently, I had the opportunity to participate in the Boy Scouts Jamboree on the air. It was held on a Saturday and it was estimated to have about 250 or so, boys and girls in attendance as well as many leaders and parents. In short, I had a wonderful time meeting the kids and the parents and leaders. It all was very well done.

The five of us Hams from RARA took appropriate equipment to demonstrate one or more transmission modes. When operating SSB the students could speak into the Mic and communicate with other hams, but what was I do on CW? Students were unable to copy code so I needed some sort of interactive activity. My keyer solved the problem.

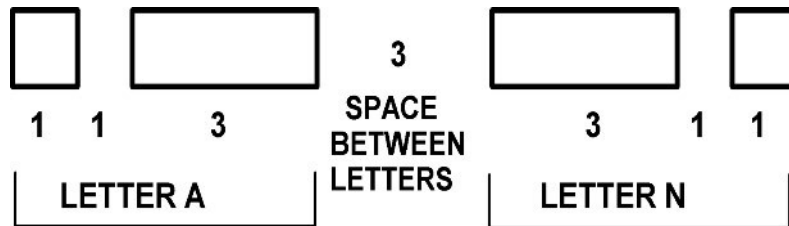
I logged a few CW stations and then with the IC-706 in the monitor but non-transmit mode, I invited the scouts to try to send the letters.

Someone had nicely printed out a sheet with dot and dash representations for the alphabet and numbers. This attracted the attention of a line of students. Each tried to send an "A" (dit-dah)... or graduating to a "G" (dah dah dit) and then the biggie, a "C" (dah dit dah dit). Some even sent the entire alphabet, but in every case, I emphasized that the dits and dahs must be grouped together else a "C" becomes "N N" They all enjoyed themselves, and within a few moments started sending excellent code letters.

Sending good code is not hard to do, especially if one is taught the correct way to use the key or keyer. We usually start with a hand key but in my experience, only some develop a really good fist. One trick is to stop tapping the key knob, but rather grasp it lightly with the thumb and second finger, resting the first finger on top the knob. Secondly, don't flex the wrist, keep it stiff and use the whole arm up and down, pivoting at the elbow. By doing this, we utilize the inertia of the arm and its muscle to move the key up and down in smooth, controlled fashion. Don't tap the key like they show in the movies ... that's terrible.



Feature Article - Send Good Code W9CJS



The drawing illustrates the spacing.

If a dit is one unit then a dah is 3 units long and the space between adjacent letters is 5 units. The spacing between words is best at 7 units.

The worst thing one can do is to make the dits and dahs almost the same length. It is virtually impossible to decode what is sent. The opposite error, making the dits too short or the dahs too long is not good spacing but still very readable.

Some ham's, use an easy to make, "Side Swiper" or "Cootie Key" These can be made from, say, a hack saw blade and two contacts, one each side. With these keys, back and forth motion is the rule. I found that always starting a sequence to the left using the right-hand finger works well. Each successive dit or dah is produced by the back-and-forth motion of the saw blade. Never try to send two or more dits or dahs on the same side, rather, alternate back and forth with each dit or dah. Again, freeze the wrist and pivot the whole arm from the elbow. With a little practice one can send good code at reasonably high speeds.

Larry Lisle nicely explained in a previous Ham Rag how to adjust a bug.

To reiterate, Hold the dit paddle until vibration stops then adjust the dit contacts to just touch. You now have dit spacing of 1:1 ... perfect. Spacing on dah's is similar but by touch only.

When using a Bug or an Electronic Keyer mechanism, do not grab both knobs. Rather, 'freeze' your thumb and 1st finger wider than the knobs spacing. Then lightly slap your whole arm left and right to send. These suggestions will make your keying sound like W1AW, believe me.

Dave Gauger W9CJS

JAMBOREE ON THE AIR (JOTA)

Submitted by Jon Lipscomb, AC9YE, JOTA/JOTI Coordinator, Scoutmaster, 126G



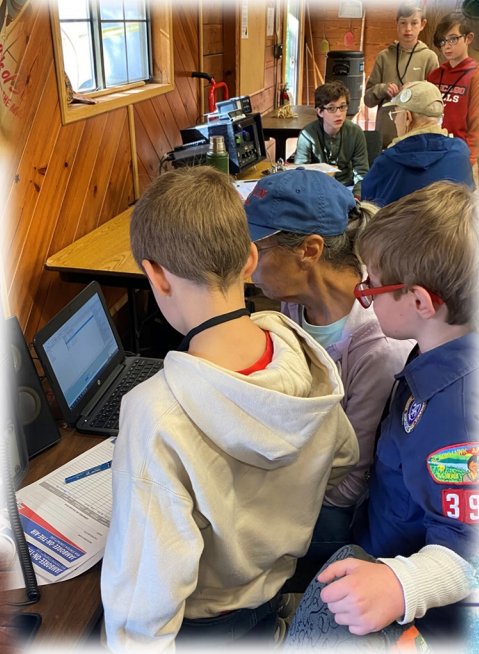
The Rockford Amateur Radio Association (RARA) supported the 2024 Scouts BSA Jamboree on the Air (JOTA) on October 19th. This year, it was held at Camp Lowden in Oregon, IL at the Blackhawk Area Council "Legends of Scouting" Fall Camp with over 523 Scouts and Scouters in attendance. The following members participated: Matt Marshall (W3MBX), Verna Schubert (KD9YUM), David Gauger (W9CJS), Jimmy Curtis (KC9GOL), Jim Plummer (KD9GDY), and myself, Jon Lipscomb (AC9YE). States contacted included Virginia, New York, Mississippi, Connecticut, Pennsylvania, Ohio, Indiana, Georgia, Nebraska, Iowa, Utah, Florida, and Washington. Countries included Italy, Germany, Netherlands, and Canada (Alberta and British Columbia). There were 33 total documented contacts. There was a significant amount of interference (QRM) due to close proximity of antennas and it was difficult to get signal out, likely due to all the trees. James' SSB Voice on 10m dipole seemed to break through all the noise and get out, as well as Dave's CW (Morse Code) on the 20m magnetic loop.

First and foremost, the Scouts were very engaged, asking great questions and seeking out different stations to experience what each had to offer. It was really great to see. The Camp Staff made special buttons for us with our call signs...a very nice touch! They were very helpful with setting up close parking and bringing us a lunch. We held the event in the rustic, heated Amerock Building with power available. We added QSL Cards this year at JOTA. They turned out like very nice quality postcards. The intent was that if a Scout communicated via radio (SSB, CW, PSK31, etc.) or via EchoLink, or Skype (JOTI), they would be given a QSL Card to document the QSO. They could choose to fill it out or not, they could even mail it to the person who they made contact with in hopes of receiving a return QSL Card, or just keep the card as a souvenir. This year, we also added EchoLink, which the younger Cub Scouts really seemed to like as they could give their first name, pack, and where they are from. They talked to Scouts in Maryland, New York, and Florida. It was great to see Cub Scouts participating in JOTA this year!

Jason Tyson, the Blackhawk Area Council "Legends of Scouting" Fall Camp leader, put it best, "It (JOTA) sounds like this was a sensational hit! I also received positive feedback from youth and leaders. It's beneficial that the volunteers up there were passionate which relays enthusiasm to the youth. A critical part of success. This undoubtedly will be a memory the kids will have for the rest of their lives."

RARA JOTA Volunteers...thank you so much for participating in such a worthwhile event that both promotes the future of Ham Radio and makes such a positive impact on these fine Scouts

JAMBOREE ON THE AIR (JOTA)



Jamboree on the Air



Ham of the Year

HAM OF THE YEAR - 2024 NOMINATIONS

The Ham of the Year award is an honor presented to the RARA member contributing above and beyond what was required to the club and to amateur radio in general during the past year. This year the selection will be made by a committee of RARA members established to evaluate the nominations of deserving candidates from those submitted by club members.

Your nominee should be chosen using two basic criteria:

1. Must be a RARA member and
2. Have performed exemplary service for RARA and amateur radio during 2024.

You may print and fill out the form below and return it via email or at the November meeting or, simply email your nomination making sure it includes the information listed below in the body of the email. Please put "Ham of the Year" in the subject line of the email.

Email: lpmcfall@charter.net or return to me at the November meeting.

All nominations must be received by November 15, 2024. They will remain confidential. Your participation and response will be appreciated.

Larry McFall, KD9HKX
RARA Vice-President and Secretary

Nominee: _____ Call Sign: _____

I nominate the above person for the RARA Ham of the Year 2024 award for the following reasons:

Signed: _____ Call: _____

Upcoming Exams

Looking to upgrade or know someone looking for a testing location?

More information available at ARRL.org

[Click here](#) for link to VE Teams offering Online Exam Sessions

MUST HAVE FRN AHEAD OF EXAM

- **11/02/2024 | [Madison WI 53715-2143](#)**
Sponsor: Four Lakes ARC
Location: Univ of WI Space Place
Time: 8:00 AM (Walk-ins allowed) [Learn More](#)
- **11/16/2024 | [Janesville WI 53545-3024](#)**
Sponsor: Wisconsin Area VEs (WAVE)
Location: Saint John Lutheran Church
Time: 1:00 PM (Walk-ins allowed) [Learn More](#)
- **11/21/2024 | [Geneva IL 60134-2725](#)**
Sponsor: Fox River Radio League
Location: Geneva Lutheran Church
Time: 6:00 PM (Walk-ins allowed) [Learn More](#)
- **11/23/2024 | [Delavan WI 53115](#)**
Sponsor: The Lakes Area ARC
Location: Community Center
Time: 1:00 PM (Walk-ins allowed) [Learn More](#)
- **11/30/2024 | [Milwaukee WI 53223-4736](#)**
Sponsor: MRAC VEC, INC
Location: Ham Radio Outlet
Time: 9:30 AM (Walk-ins allowed) [Learn More](#)
- **12/07/24 | [Freeport IL 61032-4116](#)**
Sponsor: Stateline Amateur Radio Club
Location: Freeport Public Library
Time: 12:30 PM (Walk-ins allowed) [Learn More](#)

2025 Membership Renewal

It's hard to believe 2025 is just around the corner. So far 2024 has been a great year for RARA and planning is underway for 2025. We encourage you, if able, to attend the monthly meetings, and to participate in field day, and social activities.

Here is a brief recap of our year:

- A Great Field Day event with over 60 attendees and including an overnight campout, lots of food, and delicious custom filled long-johns on Sunday morning.
- Educational programs at our monthly meetings: Collecting Keys, SATERN, What it Takes to Run a Club & Repeater Do's and Don'ts, Hands-on Key Stations, LiPO4 Batteries for Portable Operation, Go Box Show & Tell, Basic HF Operating Information, Intro to Building Basic Electronic Projects, GMRS Basics, Yaesu System Fusion and Wires-X.
- Family picnic with over 40 attendees featuring prizes, and lots of yummy food (and there are a few that consider of grilled SPAM "yummy food"!
- A monthly newsletter (Ham Rag) full of informative articles submitted by fellow RARA members.
- A new club directory including designated "mentors" for you to reach out to with questions you may have.
- Three RARA nets on the 147.195 repeater (Mon, Tues, Sat). Thanks to Dan Hunt for use of the repeater while work continues on the 610.
- Assisting with the Scouts Jamboree on the Air (JOTA).

Lots of social and other opportunities: Jerry's Pizza following the monthly meeting and weekly breakfasts and pop-up get togethers.

RARA has experienced growth this year and now boasts a membership of 62 members! We hope you will complete the attached renewal form, submit your dues, and join us for 2025 fun!

Special thanks to those of you that have already submitted your renewals and to those providing a donation above the \$25 renewal. You may complete the form at the end of this newsletter and submit via email; paying your dues via PayPal or mail the form along with a check to the address on the form or bring it to the November meeting.

Here's to lots of radio fun in 2025!

Note: New membership joining Oct-Dec are effective through 2025 and do not need to renew at this time.



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. See below for mail in information and/or PayPal information)

Date: _____ (mm/dd/yyyy) New Membership ____ Renewal ____

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 _____

Are you a member of the ARRL (American Radio Relay League)? 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.

Mail In: Please 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.

For Internet application and 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. Also, **DON'T** forget to email your completed form to: w9axdrara@gmail.com for your membership application. *Thank you for your support!*

PayPal Link:



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