

# HAM RAG



Visit our website for more club and area ham information  
In the Rockford area at <http://www.w9axd.org>

## RARA Mission Statement

A member association with common interest of public service to the community through the use of amateur radio.

## President's Log

R.A.R.A. members,

Thanks to everyone for a great turnout at last month's general meeting. Our ARRL central division section manager, Tom Ciciora, KA9QPN, was in attendance with us and provided a presentation. Tom described his duties as section manager including what his roles and responsibilities entail. A big thanks to Tom for making time in his busy schedule traveling to Rockford for this visit with our organization.

Please remember that the September general meeting will include nominations of officers and directors for 2017 R.A.R.A. Please contact a current board member or officer if you are interested in serving our organization for any officer or board position.

This month's meeting will include presentation by Bruce Carlson, N9OHT, on the special event station operating upstairs at the Ralston House, Midway Village during the WWII re-enactment Sunday September 25th, from 9 a.m. until 6 p.m. Also, we will be looking at internet-casts on the subject of amateur radio. You won't want to miss this month's meeting.

Robert Larson – KC9ICH

## September 2016

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### NEXT MEETING

**FRIDAY**

**September 9, 2016**

**7:00 pm**

**Presentation:**

**Special Event Station**

**WWII Days**

**Midway Village**

**By:**

**Bruce Carlson N9OHT**

**Nominations of officers**

**Location:**

**St. Anthony**

**Medical Center**

**Foundation Room**

**5666 E. State Street**

**Rockford, IL**

## UPCOMING RARA EVENTS

**September 9th** - General RARA Meeting 7:00 pm at OSF

**September 27th** - RARA Board Meeting 7:00 pm at OSF

**October 14th** - General RARA Meeting 7:00 at OSF

**October 25th** - RARA Board Meeting 7:00 pm at OSF

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



DEALERS

FLEA MARKET

FOOD – Breakfast – Lunch

VEC TESTING

9AM – NOON

Talk-in Repeaters

147.255+ 114.8PL Rockford

444.725+ 107.2PL Rockford (System Fusion)

146.760– 107.2PL Chicago

443.750+ 114.8PL Chicago



RADIO!

COMPUTERS!

ELECTRONICS!

Boone County

Fairgrounds

8791 IL 76

US Rt 20 & IL 76

Belvidere, IL

61008

42°28.10' x 87°56.44'

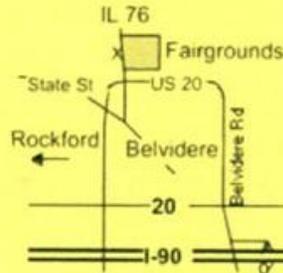
FREE PARKING

RVs or Motor

Homes

Water-Electric \$35.00

No Waste Service



Indoor Market: 8AM – 3PM

Outdoor Flea Market: 6AM – 3PM

# Saturday September 24th, 2016

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

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

Address \_\_\_\_\_ All tables \_\_\_\_\_ x \$15 = \_\_\_\_\_

City, State, Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_ Email \_\_\_\_\_ \$10.00 – Inside Electric \_\_\_\_\_ Outside Electric \_\_\_\_\_

For event questions: Call 773-614-4733 Make Check payable to: Total \_\_\_\_\_

Email [wa9orc@gmail.com](mailto:wa9orc@gmail.com) Chicago FM Club

Flyer on website <http://www.chicagofmclub.org> 218 S. Fairview Ave

\_\_\_\_\_ Park Ridge, IL 60068

CFMC reserves the right to make any necessary changes required  
Vendor setup is Friday, September 23 from 9:00 – 5:00PM with security over night.

**Plan to visit the RARA table(s). Be sure to check our website for updates.**

## Special Event Station

Hello everyone,

I am starting up a special event station for World War II days at Midway Village Museum on Sunday September 25th, from 9 a.m. until 6 p.m.

We will be operating in the upstairs of the Ralston House on the museum grounds (last house on left before the big red barn).

I believe we're OK on radios and will be operating 20 and 40 meters, 100watts. Right now it's all SSB but that's TBA.

We operate as W9M and look us up on QRZ for complete information and photos of the event.

<https://www.qrz.com/lookup/w9m>

I will be talking about the station and our role at our next RARA meeting, this coming Friday.

I am looking for operators (tech class if fine as one of us can be nearby) and will have a short information script you can read from as necessary.

We are only doing a simple paper log this year (last year operating alone I used a computer log and frankly validation of the QSL cards I give out just isn't that necessary).

IE: everyone gets a QSL with a SASE. I will handle the QSL replies.

If you are interested in being an operator (1 hour minimum) contact me at: [brucecarlson72@gmail.com](mailto:brucecarlson72@gmail.com)

Operators will get free museum admission to the day's event and be able to explore WWII Days completely when not operating. If you have not seen this event, you're in for a surprise.

Last year it was one of the top (some claim THE largest) WWII reenactments in the country with around 1400 soldiers representing France, the UK, United States, Russia, China, Japan, and Germany.

Bruce Carlson  
RARA Secretary  
N9OHT

# ARES NEWS

Northern Illinois ARES is making progress as a positive force in the ham community, (at least, that is our–my-goal). We have been involved in some fun and useful activities over the summer. First of all, our membership includes a diverse group of people, skills, and personalities – and we are the better for it! I can't remember what I last told you, so I will start with what's on my mind.

We participated in the Illinois State-wide Strategic National Stockpile drill held during the week of the 13th to the 18th of June. A few members attended a tabletop drill held at the Boone County Health Department on Thursday the 16th of June, where we learned the scenario and got to meet some of the county officials as well as reconnect with those we already knew. On Saturday, the 18th, Scott Allshouse, W9SBA, took some of his valuable time to teach a small group of us about Starcomm radios. Thanks, Scott!! The exercise supervisor then thought up scenarios to include ham radio in the drill. Suffice it to say, it was a valuable learning experience for the members who participated.

Field Day was also a time of learning... With my brother's help (my broken arm in a sling) and the help of multiple RARA members, I set up a VHF station as requested by the RARA Field Day coordinator. We ended up learning a lot about how the national traffic system works, and I had fun listening to Max Gersh, WD9DBF, aggressively work the airwaves on HF for most of the day and night. Much to my surprise, I learned that some radios can do VHF SSB (of course, not mine!). We also had two valuable members there, Justin Perkins (K9CSW), and Kevin Grant (W9KLG), who worked the digital end of the spectrum.

It is actually a relief to not have any "official" activities coming up on the calendar. We are moving our focus to training, with our experiences informing our choice of topics. Max, KD9DBF gave an informative presentation on APRS at our August meeting. At our September meeting (Monday, September 19th at 6 p.m.) Jim Holich, AB9SX, has graciously consented to do a presentation on NVIS as well as a demonstration of his portable setup for the same.

The most exciting news is that the 147.195 repeater is back on the air, with Dan Hunt, K9DCH, as the official trustee. The Illinois Repeater Association gave us an exception (due to the circumstances beyond anyone's control that kept the repeater off the air so long) and has let the County of Winnebago keep the frequency pair.

I will continue to keep you informed about our activities and put out advance notice about educational presentations coming up at our meetings.

Marianne Geiger, MD (KT9KS)  
Northern Illinois ARES Emergency Coordinator

**Editors note: The Northern Illinois ARES Net, Thursday 7PM, may use both 146.610- pl 114.8, and the 147.195+ pl 114.8 Repeaters. Please check both.**

## AMATEUR RADIO EXAM INFORMATION

We had two successful applicants on August 20, 2016. William F Brooks passed Technician and General, and Jack S. Harweger passed his Technician exam.

Many thanks go out to John Olson K9JGO, Robert Mitchell KU9I, Kevin Grant W9KLG, John Goodwin N9JHG, Mike Proctor AC9JE, and Jim Holich AB9SX, for volunteering their time.

Amateur Radio exams are held the 3rd Saturday of every month in Rockford IL. The next session is 9 AM September 17, 2016. Walk-ins are welcome. Check-in is from 9AM-10AM, no exams started after 10:00AM. We require two signature ID's and one photo. If you are a licensed Amateur Radio operator bring a copy of your FCC license. If you are using a CSCE for exam credit, bring the original and a copy (We need to see the originals & keep a photocopy of each). No copier on site. The test fee is \$14.00. Bring a non-programmable calculator.

We will also be conducting VE exams at the Belvidere Hamfest (Chicago FM Club) on Saturday September 24, 2016 from 9 a.m. until noon.

Location:  
OSF St Anthony Medical Center  
5666 E State St (Bus US20)  
Rockford IL

Exams are held in the St Francis Room (Main Entrance then turn right).

Jim Holich AB9SX  
jholich@comcast.net

### 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.**

# RARA Club Meeting Minutes for Aug. 12, 2016

Meeting called to order at 7:10 p.m. with 21 attendees.

Treasurer's report was read. Motion to accept by Mike Mike Proctor, AC9JZ, second by Gordy Seaman, KC9NEX. Motion passed.

Minutes were read from July 8th, 2016 meeting. Motion to accept by Jim Holich, AB9SX, Second by Dave Larsen, N9ZXL. Motion passed.

Old Business: Kevin Grant asked about spam in emails from Robert Larson.

New Business:

- Midway Village WWII Days Special Event station was mentioned by Bruce Carlson
- 195 repeater status was discussed. Information was incomplete at this time.
- Gordy Seaman said ham operators were needed for the car cruise night at Belvidere
- Len Soderbom gave us an update on his health
- Dave Larsen asked about the IL QSO party and if we were operating.

50/50 Raffle was held. \$22 was collected. \$16 won by Mark Broman

Presentation: Bob Ciciora, ARRL IL Section Manager gave us updates and information

- His role with ARRL
- Hams in leadership roles
- Parity Act update
- Licensees are up 20,000 members
- Tower lighting
- Advantages of ARRL membership

Motion to Adjourn the meeting at 8:14 pm by Kurt Eversole, KE9N, Second by Ron Callahan, N2RON. Motion passed

Prepared by Bruce Carlson, N9OHT, Secretary

**Note: The Northern Illinois Skywarn Net is now Saturday nights at 8:30pm.  
147.255+ pl 114.8**

## AREA Repeaters

146.610 - pl 114.8 W9AXD

147.000 + pl 114.8 W9AXD

147.195+ pl 114.8 W9RFD

146.805 - pl 114.8 K9AMJ

224.440 - pl 118.8 K9AMJ

147.255 + pl 114.8 WX9MCS

444.725 + pl 107.2 WX9MCS

## 2016 RARA Officers and Board

Officers:

President - Robert Larson, KC9ICH, 815-540-0309

[kc9ich@arrl.net](mailto:kc9ich@arrl.net)

Vice President - Gordon Seaman, KC9NEX, 815-234-5034

[glseaman@outlook.com](mailto:glseaman@outlook.com)

Secretary - Bruce Carlson, N9OHT, 815-218-1764

[bruce.n9oht@gmail.com](mailto:bruce.n9oht@gmail.com)

Treasurer - Shannon Larson, KC9QBC, 815-298-7549

[shannon1234@sbcglobal.net](mailto:shannon1234@sbcglobal.net)

Directors:

Repeater Chairman - Gordon Seaman, KC9NEX, 815-234-5034

[glseaman@outlook.com](mailto:glseaman@outlook.com)

Kurt Eversole, KE9N 815-389-2784 [kurt.eversole@gmail.com](mailto:kurt.eversole@gmail.com)

W9AXD License Trustee - Dennis Johanson, K9VMY,

815-255-4603 [##k9vmy@arrl.net](mailto:##k9vmy@arrl.net)

Dave Larsen, N9ZXL, 815-914-6078 [n9zxl@att.net](mailto:n9zxl@att.net)

Larry Schubert, AC9GO, 815-624-7772 [schubert1@charter.net](mailto:schubert1@charter.net)

Hamrag Editor - Mike Proctor, AC9JZ, 815-414-2329

[ac9jz@outlook.com](mailto:ac9jz@outlook.com)

# HAM RADIO BREAKFAST



All ham radio enthusiasts, and spouses, are welcome!

Every Friday.

Most arrive between 8AM and 8:30AM.

Orders taken as we arrive.

Spring Garden Restaurant  
4820 N 2nd St, Loves Park, IL 61111

# RADIO

ESTABLISHED 1917



RADIO-ELECTRONIC

Design • Production • Operation

JANUARY, 1944

