



HAMRAG

November
2019

Nov. 8th **RARA 2020**
Elections
& Radio Fox
Hunting

By: Randy Long - AC90F

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Next Meeting: ARRL • Friday Nov. 8th • 7:00 PM
Location: St. Anthony Medical Center • Foundation Room • 5666 E. State Street Rockford, IL

President's Message



2019 RARA Officers & Board

Officers:

President/Webmaster
Randy Long, AC9OF
815-978-6673
randy@rdlgraphics.com

Vice President
Jennifer Van Zieleghe
KD9FMJ
815-222-4221
jenleek@usa.com

Secretary
Greg Kuczek, W9VOX
815-713-5461
w9vox@comcast.net

Treasurer
Gordon Seaman, KC9NEX
815-262-0294,
kc9nex@gmail.com

Directors:

Jacek Gadj, KD9ELI
773-505-5604
hyacinth27109@yahoo.com

Kurt Eversole, KE9N
815-389-2784
kurt.eversole@gmail.com

2 Open Directors
Please Volunteer

Special Projects:

Repeater Chairman
Kurt Eversole, KE9N
815-389-2784
kurt.eversole@gmail.com

Hamrag Editor
Lynn Long, KD9IFP
815-978-6673
randy@rdlgraphics.com

Repeater License Trustee
Robert Larson, KC9ICH
815-540-0309
rlarson4@sbcglobal.net

The good, the bad and the?

The good news for the month...

We have had two club members step up and volunteer for the President and Vice President positions in 2020. Thank you Larry and Daniel!

The bad news for the month...

We still have two board positions to fill to complete our slate of candidates for 2020. We also need two volunteers to take on the responsibilities of the Secretary and a Treasurer positions for 2020.

The? for the month...

In order for RARA to be able to hold elections this month we need to have a complete slate of eight candidates. Please plan to attend the November meeting and step up and volunteer to fill one or the other of these two remaining openings. The only two requirements to hold one of these positions are... (1) You need to have been a paid member of RARA in 2019 and (2) Your membership was paid and approved prior to April 1 of 2019.

The RARA Board of Directors is comprised of the four officer positions, four at large board members and the Hamrag editor. Here is our incomplete slate of board candidates as of today (10/28/19) for the 2020 RARA Board of Directors.

RARA Board Nominees For 2020

President - Larry Schubert

Vice President - Daniel Hallstrom

Secretary - **Open**

Treasurer - **Open**

Four Directors - James Holich, Bill Calow, James Curtis & Mark Broman

Hamrag Editor (a volunteer position) - Jeff Metters

Be ready to help complete this list and vote at the November meeting.

Also, remember to turn in your "Ham of the Year" forms to any board member (see page 6).

I'll see you at the November meeting.

Randy Long, AC9OF
2019 RARA President



Editor's Note

Thank you Jeff Metters for stepping up to be the Hamrag editor for 2020.

I hope you have as much fun as I did and that RARA members continue to help you fill the Hamrag each month with photos and articles.

To all of the RARA members - thank you for your help and support during my time as Hamrag editor.

Lynn Long KD9IFP
Hamrag Editor
randy@rdlgraphics.com.



Meets every Friday morning from 8 am until about 10:00 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**

RARA HAMMentor

The program keeps moving forward. We are working on a magazine article, PowerPoint and possible handouts that could be made available for other clubs to start this type of program within their local clubs.

This program will only work locally if you are willing to step up and help. See a board member at the club meeting or give us a call - we can point you in the right direction for help or to become a mentor.

HOW I FELT WALKING INTO MY FIRST V.E. SESSION:



RARA Mission Statement

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



Programs 2019

November - Fox Hunting
December - Open at this time

Meetings

Nov 8, 2019

General RARA Meeting 7:00 pm at OSF

Nov 19, 2019

RARA Board Meeting 7:00 pm at OSF

Dec 13, 2019

General RARA Meeting 7:00 pm at OSF

Dec 17, 2019

RARA Board Meeting 7:00 pm at OSF

RARA Repeaters

Both repeaters (146.610 and 147.000 (both have a pl 114.8)) will function with both digital and analog radio signals, but the repeaters require time to determine whether the signal is digital or analog. To operate the repeater properly you must first be sure the frequency is clear, then key and hold the microphone button down for 1-2 seconds. Then begin speaking. If you fail to do this, the first part of your message will be lost.



Ham Testing

In October we had 2 successful applicants:

Hauptman, Mike H
Technician

Kaempfer, Chad
Technician

Amateur Radio exams are held the 3rd Saturday of every month in Rockford IL. The next session is 9 AM Nov. 16, 2019.

Walk-ins welcome. Check-in is from 9AM-10AM, no exams started after 10:30.

We require two signature ID's and one photo. If you are a licensed Amateur Radio operator bring a copy of your FCC ULS page with your call sign. 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.

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

Chairmen & Program Coordinator Volunteers For 2020 As Of 10/28/19

Hamrag Editor - Jeff Metters

Webmaster

(Volunteer Position*) Open In 2020

Maintain and update the RARA website as needed. This position starts January 1, 2020.

Field Day Chairman

1. Larry Schubert

2. Thomas Shouler

September Ham Fest Booth Chairman

Bill Calow

Repeater Committee Chairman

1. Thomas Shouler

2. John Goodwin

Repeater Trustee

John Goodwin

Ham Mentor Coordinator

James Holich

Club Meeting Greeter Chairman

Jon Cleaver

Monday Night Net Coordinator

Jennifer Van Zieleghe

Annual January Awards Banquet Chairman (Volunteer Position*) Open In 2020

To coordinate the annual RARA awards banquet. This will include creating a committee for the purpose of organizing, planning and the execution of the event. Planning for this event is to start as soon as the chairman is approved. This position starts January 1, 2020.

Special Event/Program Coordinator(s)/ Chairmen (Volunteer Positions as needed*) Open In 2020

Club Meeting Program Presenter(s) (Volunteer Positions – RARA needs 10 programs for monthly club meetings in 2020)

1. James Holich - Antenna Tuners

2. Scott DeSantis - KB9VRW - ARRL

3.

4.

5.

6.

7.

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9.

10.

Could You, Would You Like To Be....

Calling all RARA club members who would like to have the opportunity to be net control for the new Monday night net.

As of August 26, the RARA Monday night net came back to the 610 repeater in our new Not-A-Net Net format. This new net format makes it easier for someone who has never had the opportunity to be net control to step in and operate like a pro. The new format is relaxed, more conversational, easier for both the listener and the net controller. Step up and volunteer, see how easy it is and how much fun you'll have.

If you would like to volunteer to be net control there are only a handful of requirements that you need to meet. First, you must be a RARA member. Second, you must have a commanding, quality signal to the 610 repeater. Third, the ability to read a simple paragraph to open the net for the evening. And finally, you must want to have fun.

If you're interested please contact one of the RARA board members and volunteer today.

This is a great radio active opportunity.



Meeting Minutes

October 11, 2019

Meeting called to order at 7:07 p.m. by Randy AC9OF with 15 present at the meeting.

Last Meeting Minutes

- The September meeting minutes were not available.

Treasurer's Report

- Report presented by Gordy KC9NEX.
- Balance is currently \$6181.88 with no out standing bills.
- Motion to accept by Kurt KE9N and seconded by Larry AC9GO. Passed by membership vote.

Old Business

- Randy AC9OF advised that four RARA 2020 Board positions and numerous volunteer positions are still available. A sign-up sheet was distributed to the attendees.

New Business

- Bill KC9OJP advised that the Oct 13th Rockford Regatta has been cancelled due to river conditions. ARES was still planning on using the day for testing of equipment. Anyone is invited to attend. Meet-up will be at the log cabin @ 8 a.m.

Presentation

- Scott DeSantis KB9VRW presented "Current and Future ARRL Activities/Programs". Scott shared examples of Amateur Radio Public Service and the ARRL goals for the future.

Motion to adjourn by Kurt KE9N and seconded by Gordy KC9NEX. Passed by membership vote.

OK, I GROUNDED BOTH BATTERY TERMINALS



**WITH 4/0 WIRE.
NOW WHAT?**



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 would like to join at our next meeting (see cover for meeting details), fill out the form and bring the form with your payment to the meeting and see our treasurer. **Thank you for your support!**



MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

website: w9axd.org

Membership Type: New (New memberships after July 1st are 1/2 price) Renewal

Annual Fees: \$20 - Student (up to age 24)

\$35 - Adult (25-61 years old) \$25 - Senior (Starts the year you will turn 62)

Above rate includes the
RARA monthly newsletter, HamRag (website download)
HamRag via USPS: \$12 extra

Name: _____

Call Sign: _____

Email Address: _____

Address: _____

Town: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Home Phone #: _____ Work #: _____

Cell #: _____ Ext: _____

Radio Interests: _____

May we make your phone and e-mail available for other RARA members only? Yes No

Comments: _____

RETURN THE COMPLETED FORM TO:
ROCKFORD AMATEUR RADIO ASSOCIATION
P.O. BOX 8465
ROCKFORD, ILLINOIS 61126

All membership applications to become either a new member or to be reinstated as a member of RARA must be approved by the RARA board.

Approved: _____ Membership Year ____/____/____ to ____/____/____