



Lakeshore Repeater Association, Inc.

**[KR9RK.ORG](http://KR9RK.ORG) / [KR9RK.COM](http://KR9RK.COM)**

Newsletter: August 1, 2024

116 Members Strong!

This month we welcome new members:

Brian, WB9TPA

Kevin, WB9LLV

This sets a new membership record for the LRA growing significantly larger than we were even back in the days when autopatch was the big club membership draw.





## From the board

Contact the board members via email at [Board@KR9RK.COM](mailto:Board@KR9RK.COM)

# Today is the last day to sign up for the picnic: KR9RK.COM

A date and new location was selected for the LRA summer picnic: Aug 4 12:00 - ?



[Old Settlers Park 19805 Durand Avenue, Union Grove, Wisconsin](#)  
(by the Racine County fairgrounds)

Our first membership meeting at the YMCA was held last night. Attendance was disappointing, but it went off as planned. We had some technical problems at the start with the on-line linking so the presentation was delayed until about 7:15.

Be sure to attend the October meeting: President and Treasurer positions are up for election.



## ... to Support the LRA Activities in August

At the membership meeting last night, President Dwayne announced that we have formed a bi-weekly “volunteers forum” meeting call on GoogleMeets that will consist of any and all LRA volunteers. But volunteers only. To qualify for joining this call, members must volunteer for SOMETHING... . ANYTHING AT ALL. This will not be a formal meeting, but only a very informal discussion group. If you feel left out of the “inner circle of club management”, try volunteering for something and participating in LRA's activities.

After July, the summer doldrums are setting in. Besides watching the corn grow, our only scheduled activities are the Picnic on August 4 and the Fox Hunt on August 17.

But then the Megacycle club's Freefest is August 10 ... you won't want to miss that!

## Quarterly Meeting Presentations:

I made a “FredTalk” presentation on grounding and lightning protection at the July membership meeting. Our projector was inadequate for the room and the slides couldn't be seen clearly so I'm posting a link to the presentations here for those that missed it:



Link to: [Lightning Protection Presentation](#)

We now have time allotted for member presentations at our quarterly meetings due to the extended availability of our meeting room.

If you have something to share with the group, and would like to present, please contact Dwayne, Matt, or me.

## Quarterly Membership Meeting



## NEW HOURS! NEW LOCATION!

Our quarterly open membership meetings are held on the last Tuesday of the first month of each quarter. (January, April, July, and October). The next will be Tuesday, October 29 and it will be held at our **new YMCA location** in Mt. Pleasant. Doors will open at 6:30pm and **a tech talk (if any) will begin at 6:45 sharp. Please note the change in starting time and location.** **YMCA Meeting Room at 8501 Campus Drive, Mt Pleasant, WI 53406.** Enter at the main entrance and check in with the front desk.

## Officer Elections:

The positions of President and Treasurer are up for election at the October membership meeting. Per LRA bylaws, only members **physically present** and in good standing for more than 30 days may vote. Proxy, remote, or mail-in voting is not allowed. Nominations for the offices of President and Treasurer must be submitted in writing to the Secretary no later than October 1.

Both President Dwayne, N9PYA and Treasurer Rick, KC9UJO have indicated their desire to continue in their positions for another 2 years.



## LRA Member Activities:

### Foxhunts



The July Foxhunt was a lot of fun.

The next one will be on the third Saturday of August (8/17/2024). We are meeting for breakfast at Meadows Family Restaurant in Franksville at 8am. Fox leaves to hide at 9am. The hunt starts at 10 and ends at noon. Transmitter frequency and other details will be provided directly before the hunt.

“I appreciate "early chicken's" for the hunt as this helps me better prepare and make sure everyone has fun! Please send me an email to [secretary@kr9rk.com](mailto:secretary@kr9rk.com) let me know that you are interested.” –**Matt, AF9Q**



**Bernie, N9AZA**, is our SKYWARN coordinator for the LRA. Summer is here and Bernie's already called the weather spotter net into operation. Be sure to join him.

Supporting Bernie on our SKYWARN committee is Steve, N9SEB, Rick, KC9UJO, and Dwayne, N9PYA.

The SKYWARN network is designed as a "liaison net" during severe weather operations, serving as a collection point where local spotter networks (operating on their local repeaters and frequencies) can collect and relay reports and information to the NWS in Norman. The local net control stations gather information from individual spotters and relay that information to the NWS via the liaison net.

## Happy Hour, LRA Style



The “UN-NET” is hatching many more “Chickens” almost every day. **A new record** was set in April when K9SO, as moderator, logged in 61 participants blasting away at the old record of 54.

Recently, in addition to our usual SE Wisconsin participants, we have been getting regular nation-wide and International participation too. A lot of fun.

Going on its 4th year, this is a fun, largely unstructured but moderated “Un-Net” where the moderator writes the often crazy rules. Check in **every day** after work with your call sign and share your happy thoughts.

This group meets daily on both the LRA 442 and 147 Allstar linked repeaters at 5:00pm sharp and lasts for an hour. Be prepared to share your happy thoughts for the day. It is moderated regularly by **K9SO, K9WBT, KC9UJO, N9PYA, and KD1Z**. Lately, **Robin, WB9COW** and **Craig, KD9UQE**, have been moderating too.

The beautiful FAT SQUIRREL certificate, courtesy of **Dave, NP2I**, is awarded for 100 HH check-ins and there are 74 of them decorating hamshack walls as of today. Millennial awards for over 1000 check-ins have been awarded to 4 participants already. The UHF machine “bubble chart” during May 30 HH.

## ARES/RACES AND LRA PUBLIC SERVICE NET.



Join us every third Wednesday of the month at 7:30pm on our 2 meter repeater for an ARES/RACES net followed by public service announcements. Please visit [[ARES/RACES website](#)] for more information on how to become involved and serve the community.

# Saturday Breakfast



Many of our members meet for an informal breakfast every Saturday morning at 8:00am at the Meadows Restaurant in Franksville. Everyone is welcome.



# Happy Hour Email Group on Groups.IO



We have a happy hour email reflector (“the forum”) on Groups.IO now. Dozens of interesting posts last month. Join in the conversation by clicking on the link below now! You won’t get spammed as you can opt to receive only one summary email per day. Get an invite here: [[LRA Happy Hour Net](#)]



## Member Activities

I joined **Matthew, KC9UPR**, as a Foxhunt driver at last month's event. Matt is really good at this and I learned a lot about his "secret" techniques. Even though he has a sophisticated Doppler tracking system at his disposal, he prefers to use a simple yagi approach. One trick he taught me is to monitor the 3rd harmonic frequency of the Fox. Since the 3rd is highly attenuated at the transmitter, it is useful for monitoring when we are getting close to the prize.

Gene, , and his crew were the first Fox and we were able to find him in 17 minutes.

The second Fox, Matt, AF9Q, was a bit more sneaky. Parked near (but not in) a big sporting event at a park in Franksville, we wasted a lot of time fruitlessly searching among the hundreds of participants' parked cars ... but he was across the street at a local pub.

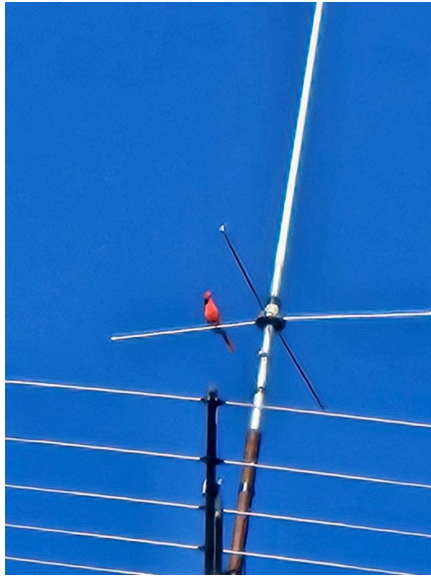
Ever persevering, Matt finally tracked him down with less than a minute remaining in the official time allowed.

I wasn't a whole lot of help to him, but in an attempt to provide some value the next time I run with him, I bought this UHF/VHF directional loop antenna this will not only capture the 3rd harmonic, but also the stronger second harmonic:

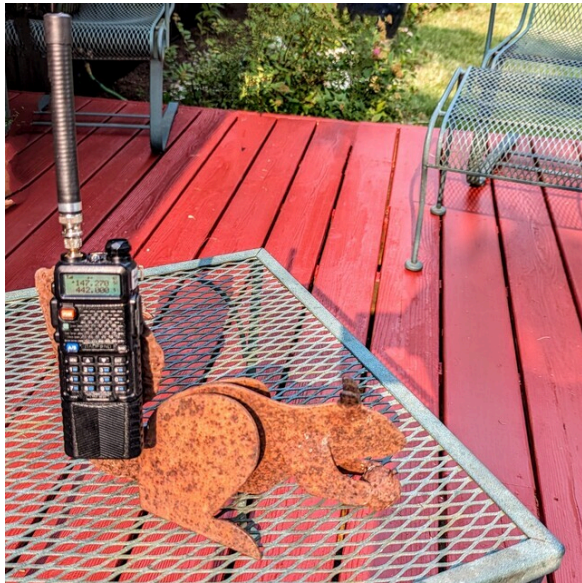




Antenna noise: I was tracking down a source of loud chirping around my backyard antenna farm the other day and found the culprit perched 75 feet up on my tower:



Mike, WW9X, found a new use for an old metal squirrel ornament he purchased at a flea market years ago: A holder for his HT used during the Happy Hour every day:



QSL Bureau success:

**Scott, W9AFB** scored two envelopes of DX cards from the 9th call area QSL bureau last month. Bureau cards are always fun to receive, but they often arrive many months after the QSO. Here's what he scored this month:



The ARRL leads both incoming and outgoing QSL services and they're free. Not even a need to be a member of the ARRL either. Details on the incoming service can be viewed by clicking on the link [HERE](#)



**Bruce, K9WBT**, has been leading a local Winlink Wednesday Radio Email activity. There has been growing participation lately with a record turnout last week. Catch Bruce on the air or anyone on the daily Happy Hour Un-Net. Bruce moderates on Thursdays. What's it all about? Check out Winlink here [[Winlink](#)]. It is certainly a challenge to beat **Bill, KD1Z** for the first checkin spot.

Our current list of Google Docs tutorials:

[Winlink: Getting Started with Telnet](#)

[Winlink: Winlink Check-in Form](#)

[Winlink: Local Weather Report](#)

[Winlink: ICS-213 General Message](#)

[Winlink: Catalog Request: ZONE FORECAST](#)

[Winlink: Catalog Request: Open Lakes Forecast, Lake Michigan](#)

[Winlink: Catalog Request: Space Weather Predictions](#)



Ya know, I'm not just FISSION for laughs here ... .



Did you hear the story about the claustrophobic astronaut?  
He just needed some space.

What kind of Tea is hard to swallow?  
Reality

What's the most terrifying word in Nuclear Physics?  
Oops!

## Contesting/Operating Corner



The Ten-Ten International Summer SSB contest kicks off on August 4 (but you'll miss that one because of the LRA picnic of course)

The big ARRL EME (moonbounce) contest is the weekend of August 24 and 25.

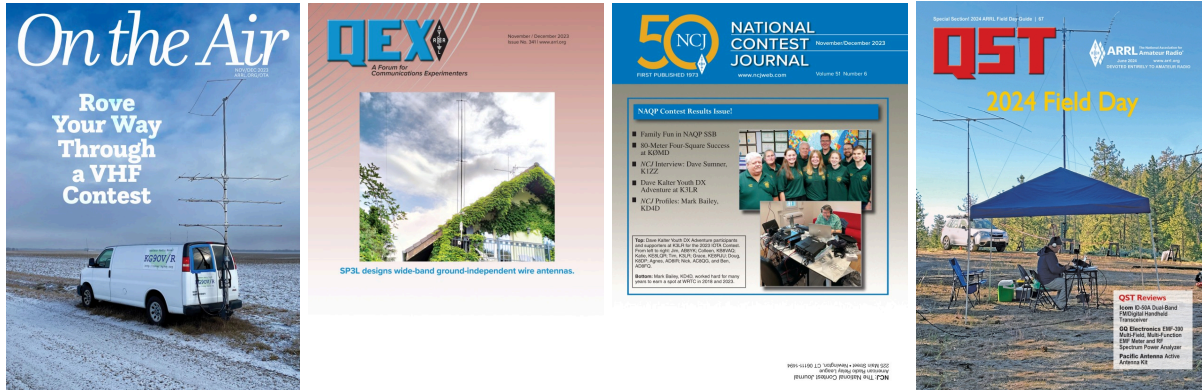
Lots and lots of contests going on every weekend in August click [HERE](#) for the full list.



## Did You Know:

... that female Hams are known as YL's (Young Ladies), a Ham's wife is known as his XYL (get it?), and that Ham children are known as Harmonics? Of course, a male Ham is known as an OM (Old Man) regardless of age.

## ARRL Publications (all 4 come with membership):



Join the ARRL today! [Join here now!](#)

## Technical stuff:

I ran across an old Air Force training “video” from 1947 on the subject RADIO ANTENNA FUNDAMENTALS. Still relevant and entertaining today, click [HERE](#):

## New digital mode:

There is a new Digital Voice mode being developed. The most common ones have been D-Star, DMR, Fusion, P25 and NXDN. Those all use a proprietary codec sold by DVSI. The new mode is called M17 and uses an open source/free codec called Codec2. M17 uses 4FSK protocol and makes use of a fairly wide range of audio frequencies.

**William, WM9V**, sent me these details:

*“It’s on the p1star as a mode, I modified a TYT MD380 for M17/OpenRTX, works pretty good. There is a M17 module you can connect to a 9600bps port of mobile radios to enable that too. Hopefully it gets integrated in all sorts of stuff, open source.”*

## So you want to be a HAM?

Ham radio has a legacy of over 100 years. Learn about the legacy and the “private” Ham Radio jargon to impress your fellow Amateurs. **Charlie, K2OC** (my brother) sent me the following link leading to an excerpt from a book. It’s a fairly long read, but very interesting and worthwhile:

[Ham Radio Culture](#)

## Stuff You Need (?) Department:

The excerpt above is from a book available on Amazon for only \$608.99 (in paperback ... not a typo):

[Ham Radio's Technical Culture \(Inside Technology\)](#)



**Thanks to our growing list of newsletter contributors! Make sure you post your activities on the HH forum or send them to me at [VP@KR9RK.COM](mailto:VP@KR9RK.COM). Pictures say it best! Don't forget to send me a picture of your QSL cards.**

**This month I'm starting a swap meet section of the newsletter in the appendix below. Send me pictures and details of what treasures you may want to sell.**

**73, Fred, K9SO**

**VP, Lakeshore Repeater Association, Inc.**

[VP@kr9rk.com](mailto:VP@kr9rk.com)

# APPENDIX I, upcoming hamfests:

**August 10: Racine Megacycle club's annual Freefest at the Racine Kennel Club (6320 6 Mile Rd., Racine, WI 53401). Details [HERE](#)**

**August 10, 2024 – CVARC 2024 Hamfest Location: Chippewa Falls, WI Sponsor: Chippewa Valley Amateur Radio Club Website: <https://w9cva.org/hamfest>**

**August 24, 2024 – Circus City Swapfest Location: Baraboo, WI Sponsor: Yello Thunder Amateur Radio Club Website: <http://yellowthunder.org>**

**September 7, 2024 – ORC Annual Regional Fall Swapfest Location: Cedarburg, WI Sponsor: Ozaukee Radio Club Website: <http://www.OzaukeeRadioClub.org>**

**September 20-21, 2024 – HRO Superfest Location: Milwaukee, WI Sponsor: Ham Radio Outlet Website: Not Provided**

**October 19, 2024 – Hidden Valley ARC 1st Annual Hamfest Location: Lancaster, WI Sponsor: Hidden Valley Amateur Radio Club Website: Not Provided**

**November 2, 2024 – ARES Conference / State Convention Location: Wisconsin Rapids, WI Sponsor: Numerous Website: <https://wi-arrrl.org/events/>**

## Appendix II

**LRA Freefest:** Presented for informational purposes only. The LRA assumes no responsibility for accuracy or suitability of purpose and makes no warranty of any kind.

The Grandkids of **Dave, NP2I**, are all grown up now and he has this delightful swingset in his backyard that's no longer being used. He wants to donate this to a younger, growing family. It's in great shape:





---

Hi everyone. I am selling my FX-4CR. **\$500**



If you don't know what it is, check it out here:

<https://bg2fx.com/fx-4cr-transceiver-prod>

Very cool, 20 watt HF transceiver built by BG2FX. I have had it about a year, but only used it a few times. It is in great condition. They sell for \$550, but are unobtainable at this time as he only builds them in small batches.

Email me if interested, I will be posting it to QRZ soon but wanted to offer here first. Email on QRZ is correct.

Brad

FOR SALE

43 FT. DX ENGINEERING VERTICAL ANTENNA

160 thru 10 Meters w/ SAF-T-TILT BASE

Including SG-230 Smartuner Microprocessor  
Controlled Automatic Antenna Coupler

DX Remote Tuner Mounting System

DX Radial Plate

\$500.00

Peter Haas W9IXN

[guemoid@aol.com](mailto:guemoid@aol.com)

\*\*\*\*\*

Yaesu FTDX3000 with all filters



Description click [HERE](#)

Lightly used, like new, and in perfect operating condition. This 100w transceiver has the 2nd best receiver I have ever used.

I just ordered the new FlexRadio 6800 so this has got to go.

\$2000 OBO

Fred  
K9SO