



UNDERLINED TEXT IN THIS NEWSLETTER ARE LINKS TO OTHER SITES

Newsletter: February 1, 2025

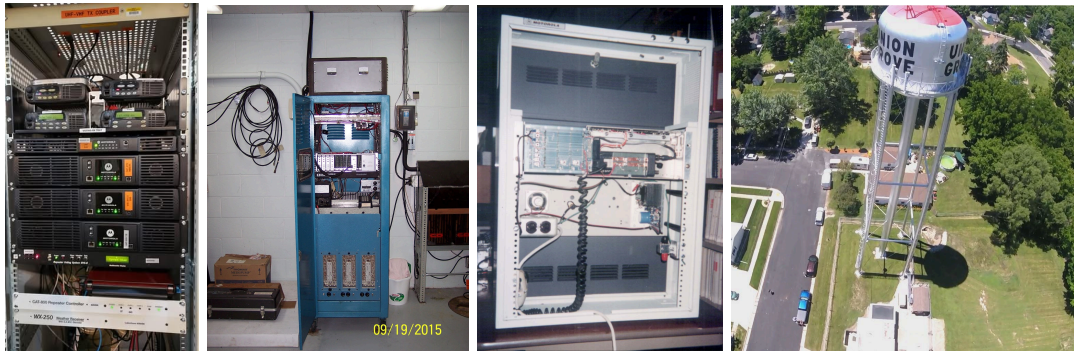
Lakeshore Repeater Association, Inc.

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

Welcome to LEONARD J KELTER K9LJ: Joined 2025-01-11

\*\*\*\*\*

Memberships spanning 3 countries! 108 active members.



## From the board

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

Our new Walworth receive site for the 442.000 repeater has been providing much needed western area receive coverage. You may access this site by switching to a 114.8 PL. (Still listen to main TX site) This is linked into our main site full time via Allstar.

Full time RF access to LRA's 442.000 wide area repeater is also available in the Burlington area and is available via the 442.850 (88.5) repeater operated and owned by **Robin, WB9COW (Trustee)**. He also provides Echolink access (check with Robin for details). Use this site for handheld radio access when visiting the famous Fred's Burgers in Burlington (no relation).

\*\*\*\*\*

## LRA Special Event Station:

The board formed a committee to apply for a special event callsign and get on the air to commemorate our 50th anniversary as a club. **Kevin, KB9LLV**, has been appointed "Special Events Coordinator" for 2025. Check with Kevin for details to operate "K5O"

\*\*\*\*\*

## LRA TASTE of FIELD DAY EVENT:

An expanded "Taste of Field Day" event was authorized for this year with local stations staying on the air longer. The Richard Bong shelter #1 has been reserved for this event once again. Saturday, June 28. Setup begins at 9:00am.

Last full weekend of June, 2025. Contact **K9SO** and/or **KB9LLV** for details. Last year:



\*\*\*\*\*

## LRA operating software changes:

With increasing membership, our old "seat of the pants" way of operating must change and we need to modernize our operations. We will be moving to HamClubsOnLine software sometime in the first quarter. Look for details and further discussion at the January quarterly meeting on the 28th.



## KR9RK Remote HF Station: LRA Project North Star

At the last membership meeting, I introduced a new idea to expand the reach and impact of the Lakeshore Repeater Association in our community: establishment of a remotely controlled club HF station. A "dream" location has been offered by **Joe, N9JOS** in Raymond, Wi. who has already taken steps on his own to make this a reality. The site will initially have 3-40 foot towers and associated antennas. LRA is being asked to support his efforts to bring his vision to reality.

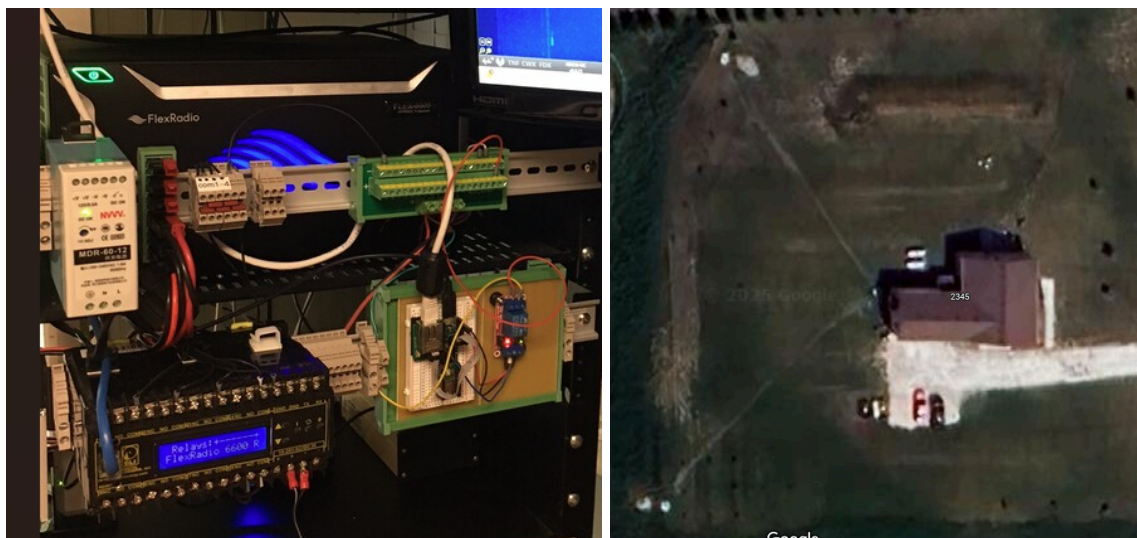
Joe's generosity and the associated lease of the property presents us with a unique opportunity to support "antenna challenged" club members. As it will be fully remote controlled, the station will be used to promote Amateur Radio at local schools and community events such as the YMCA "Kid's Day".

There was considerable interest and to continue the discussion, and we have already held our first kick-off meeting. If you would like to participate, please send an email to [VP@KR9RK.COM](mailto:VP@KR9RK.COM) and I will add you to the meeting list.

**I have also set up a separate Groups.IO forum.** Please advise if you would like to be included in that group as well. We will be conducting much of our business there. A membership survey will be sent to the members shortly

To get an idea of what is being proposed, click on the link below. Please understand that this is a discussion only and has not yet been approved by the LRA board or its membership which will be required. A membership vote will be taken at the next Quarterly meeting.

[Project North Star presentation link](#)





## ... to Support the LRA Activities Volunteer and [RENEW!](#)

At the last membership meeting , 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. 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, April 29** and it will be held at our **new YMCA location** in Mt. Pleasant. Starting time is 6:45 pm central time. We live stream these events if you would like to participate remotely.

[A special presentation will be made by Craig, KC9UQE on “Common Mode”](#)



## LRA Member Activities:



**Bernie, N9AZA**, is our SKYWARN coordinator for the LRA. Summer is long gone now, but let's prepare.

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

Members from the Milwaukee Area Skywarn Association (MASA) came to our last meeting. They have a practice net coming up Feb. 20 at 7:00pm. On their 440.200+ 127.3 repeater. Watch for an announcement from Bernie, N9AZA, too.



# Happy Hour, LRA Style: our 5th year



We have a new HH link: KR9RK-R Hams Over IP # 15081

Congratulations go out to John, **KC9QFP**, for joining the “Millennial Club” passing the 1000 check-in mark last month. The Millennial club certificate is

## 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.



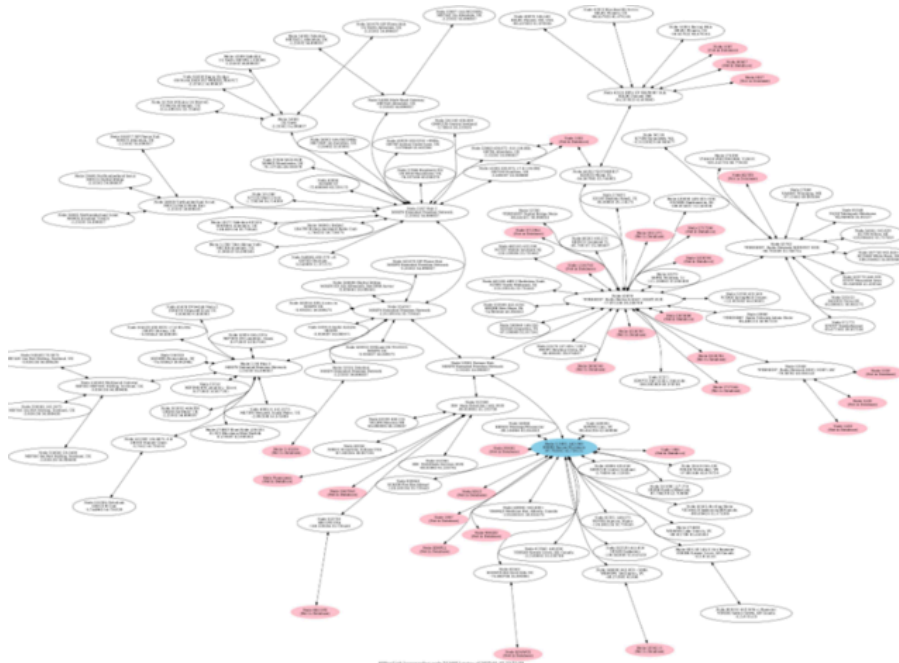


# LRA Happy Hour Email Group on Groups.IO



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](#)] or send me an email requesting an invite to [VP@KR9RK.COM](mailto:VP@KR9RK.COM)

## Our network:





## Member Activities

Jen, **K9UET**, sent me some pictures of her newly organized shack:



Nicely done, Jen!

\*\*\*\*\*

**Mike, WW9X**, who is always reporting on the conditions of water “south of the Point” took this short drone video. Always on guard for a water shortage!

<https://youtu.be/W-j7oLxY4ko>

**Graham, GM0UUB**, is one of our newest members and resides in Scotland. He sent me some pictures of King Charles' visit to his hometown last month:



\*\*\*\*\*

**Kevin, VA6RCN**, one of our Canadian members, got his new IC-9700 up and running on D-Star. Look for him! He asked if we had a D-Star link set up for Happy Hour. Sadly, no.

\*\*\*\*\*

**Bill, KD1Z**, posted this interesting video of the Digital Library of Amateur Radio:

<https://search.app/CtjABSTazzyLXTde8>

“Check it out.

Video describes what they do. Online.

I just saw this and is new to me.

They are archive Ham radio interviews like the “Rain Report”, old Amateur Magazines and much more.” – KD1Z

**Fred, K9SO:** I rewired my North Carolina station (again!). This station is 100% remotely controlled and uses a Flexradio 6600 for HF (barely visible behind the controls) and a Kenwood TM2000 I use only for VHF and UHF on the top. The latter is accessed from my "RetroRig" portable box. A local PC and monitor are convenient during setup and troubleshooting, but not needed for operating the station:



**Rick, W9ABE** sent in this note: [ARRL Ham Radio from Indoors](#)

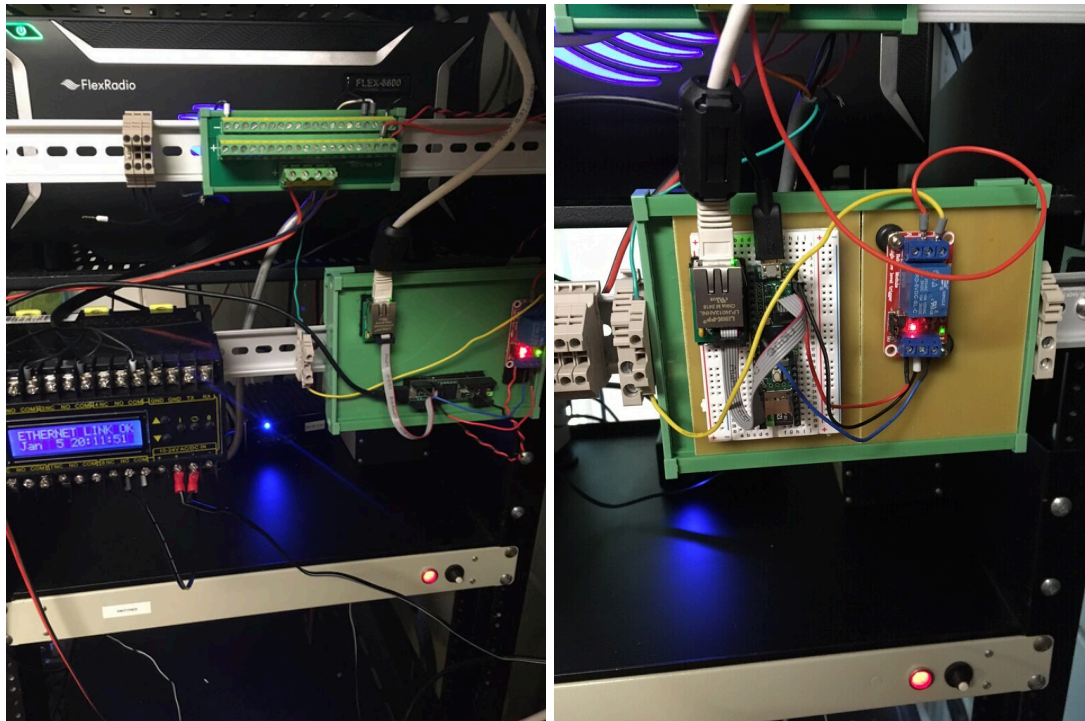
"The ARRL just released this book (\$24.95) and I found it to be very informative for new or recent upgrades to General.

The subjects range from indoor antennas design & placements, along with digital modes FT8 etc. It also includes screenshots to setup some of the digital modes."

**Rich, W9ABE**

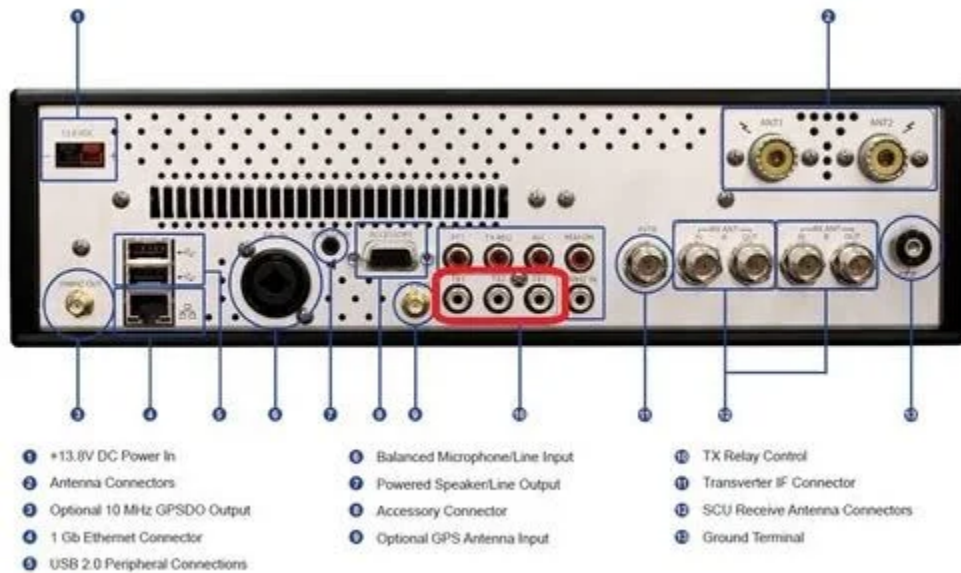


**Fred, K9SO:** While away in Wisconsin, a storm generated static zap took out a couple of protection diodes in my unattended FlexRadio 6500 in North Carolina. I built up a “FlexRadio connection detector” (green panel) that disconnects the antennas when the radio is not in use:



A simple Teensy 4.1 processor and a coaxial antenna relay. The detector can be built for under \$50.00. FlexRadios only. Cheap insurance.

Kevin, N9OIG, is on the air with his new-to-him FlexRadio 6500. Two radios and four slices, mmm-mmm good. A new transverter has him on 2m too:



He has already found a bunch of aftermarket devices designed to work with Flex that I'm going to want. Some I didn't even know existed. He's costing me a lot of money. I would have been better off throwing the radio away rather than selling it to him. It would have been cheaper!

# Project Pages:

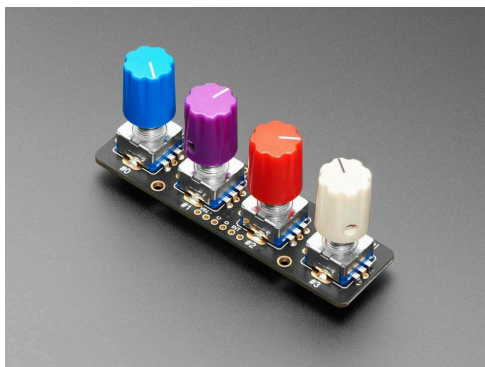


[send me pictures of your latest projects!]



K9SO: Now in use side by side at my NC operating position. One “MORCONI” keyer is connected to my Flex Radio Q-SO Qorners station, the other to my NC station.

I have ordered some I2C encoder parts for my next project: a FlexControl on steroids.





Kevin, N9OIG, and Jeff, KC9JOB have been inventing new ways to access our repeaters via these radio-less Allstar nodes. They showed them off to the members at the meeting last month.





\*\*\*\*\*

## In the News: Hamcation

Mike from FlexRadio will be making a presentation at Hamcation that will include multi-user remote check in. A must see!

\*\*\*\*\*

## Meeting Idea?

One club is using auctions to raise money for club events. Read the full story in this month's QST. Maybe kick off our meetings with an auction at the YMCA meeting room? Maybe get more folks to attend and raise some money at the same time.

I have proposed we hold auctions at all of our events (meetings, parties, etc.). Donations (100% to LRA) or Reserve (10% to LRA). One person's junk is another's treasure. I know I have a lot of cool stuff I would donate. This club raises over \$1000:

### Club Station

## Increase Funding for Club Events with Annual Fundraisers

*Activities are perhaps the most important aspect of an amateur radio club's uniqueness and appeal to its members — they get members engaged, allow members to learn from each other, and provide a sense of community. In this month's column, Southeastern Connecticut Amateur Radio Society (SECARS), W1QV, President Mark Noe, KE1U, shares how SECARS holds annual auctions to help fund their activities.*

SECARS is a very active club. We give back to our community by providing communication support for local marathons and road races; hosting several training, educational, and emergency service nets on our repeater system; organizing foxhunts, and more. Of course, all this activity requires funding. While annual dues and donations provide substantial support, approximately 1/3 of our yearly revenue comes from our biannual live-auction fundraisers.

We're not restrictive with what we accept for sale, which results in having some interesting items at the auction hall! Everyone always has fun, and occasional bidding wars break out for collectibles. Each event brings between 55 and 90 people, and we auction off 100 to 300 items over the course of several hours, bringing in more than \$1,000 to our treasury.

### Planning and Organization

Running an event of this magnitude requires planning. We form a committee (appointed by the club president) to organize the event and provide support the day of. We also discuss the logistics at our monthly executive committee meeting to ensure resources are available.

The first task is scheduling the event 6 months ahead of when we want to have it. This lead time allows us to secure the venue and advertise the auction. We make sure not to schedule the event at the same time as other major hamfests to maximize our attendance. We also hold a club meeting for SECARS's membership to approve the event date.

Next, we secure the venue. We like to serve refreshments, so small kitchen facilities are required. We've used senior centers, fire stations, and church halls, but have found church halls to be best suited for us because they're large, scheduling is flexible, and they typically require only a small donation to secure the space.

Finally, we determine the terms of the event: what we'll charge for admission and what's included with that fee; what the terms of sales are and what guarantees the club will offer on purchased equipment (we



The audience bidding on a popular item. A lively group makes for an exciting event. [Mark Noe, KE1U, photo]

\*\*\*\*\*



**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](#)]. Here's his latest check-in map:



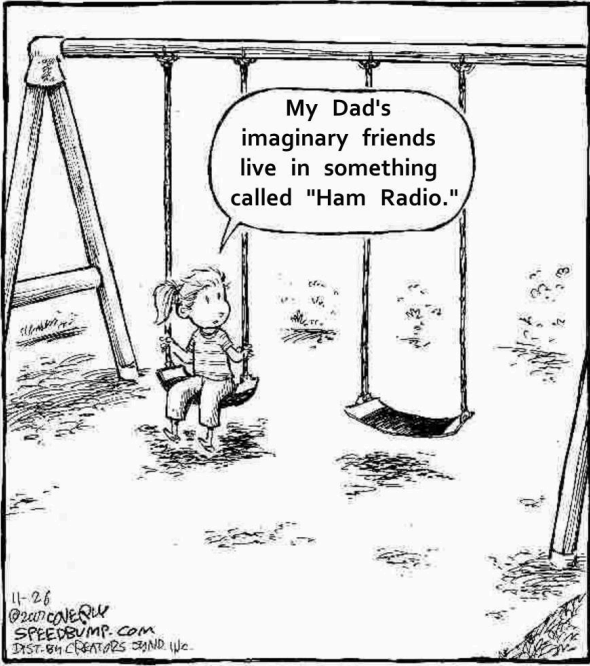
**Jeff, KC9JOB** and I enjoyed the giant hamburger challenge at one of our favorite hangout spots and won this fabulous "Koozi" when we finished it all.



I just bought a book from IKEA:



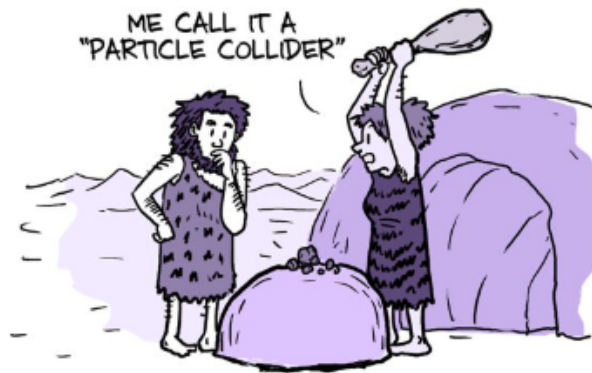
Dave, NP2I, sent in this cartoon:



\*\*\*\*\*

# Physics Comics

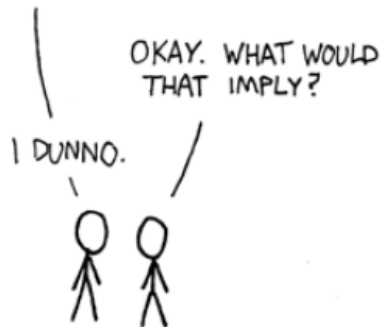
Classical Mechanics  
Motion, Force, Energy



"Sit down, Roger! You're creating drag!"

## STRING THEORY SUMMARIZED:

I JUST HAD AN AWESOME IDEA.  
SUPPOSE ALL MATTER AND ENERGY  
IS MADE OF TINY, VIBRATING "STRINGS."



\*\*\*\*\*



# Contesting/Operating Corner



Visit the contest calendar to see what's cookin' this weekend:

<https://www.contestcalendar.com/weeklycont.php>

From the ARRL bulletin:

## Upcoming State QSO Parties

The State QSO Party (SQP) season kicks off this weekend, with three opportunities to participate. The [Vermont QSO Party](#) begins at 0000 UTC on Saturday, February 1, and runs for 48 hours, concluding at 2359 UTC on Sunday, February 2. Also on Saturday, the [Minnesota QSO Party](#) kicks off at 1400 UTC and concludes at 2359 UTC. Finally, the [British Columbia QSO Party](#) begins at 1600 UTC on February 1 and concludes at 2359 UTC on February 2.

All three of the events qualify for the State QSO Party Challenge, which has an added Mobile/Portable Challenge in 2025. The organizers of the SQP have added this new challenge to encourage more operators to consider operating mobile and portable. Rules for the SQP Mobile/Portable Challenge are available at

[stateqsoparty.com/wp-content/uploads/2025/01/2025SQPMobilePOrtableRulesFb.pdf](http://stateqsoparty.com/wp-content/uploads/2025/01/2025SQPMobilePOrtableRulesFb.pdf).

\*\*\*\*\*

## CQ World Wide WPX RTTY Contest

The CQ World Wide WPX RTTY Contest begins at 0000 UTC on Saturday, February 8, and concludes at 2359 UTC on Sunday, February 9. The objective is for amateurs world-wide to contact as many stations and prefixes as possible. Single Operator stations may operate for 30 hours of the 48-hour contest period. Multi-operator stations may operate for the full 48 hours. Complete rules are available at [www.cqwxrtty.com/rules.htm](http://www.cqwxrtty.com/rules.htm).

\*\*\*\*\*

## ARRL School Club Roundup

The [ARRL February School Club Roundup](http://www.arrl.org/school-club-roundup) runs from 1300 UTC on Monday, February 10, through 2359 UTC on Friday, February 14. School Club Roundup is co-sponsored by ARRL and the [Long Island Mobile Amateur Radio Club](http://www.limarc.org) (LIMARC). For full details of the event, visit [www.arrl.org/school-club-roundup](http://www.arrl.org/school-club-roundup).

\*\*\*\*\*

## VHF-UHF FT8 Activity

[FT8 Activity](#)

[Results by Rounds](#)

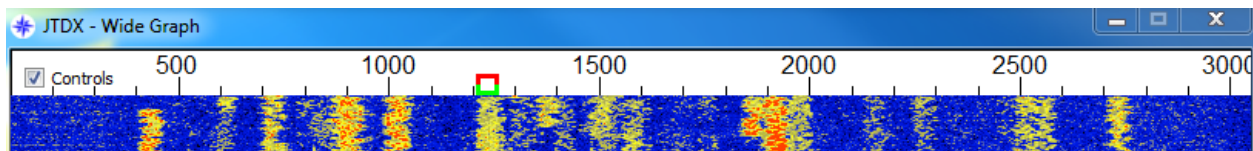
[General Results](#)

[Received LOGs](#)

[Upload LOG](#)

[VHFdx](#)

[Contact](#)



## Rules VHF-UHF FT8 Activity

- **FT4 qsos are accepted on 2m and 70cm**
- **Low power limit has been changed for 70cm. It'll be 75 W**
- **Scoring: One (1) point per unique callsign worked (regardless the mode)**
- **Purpose:** VHF FT8 Activity is an "OPEN" contest, for promoting FT8 & FT4 activity on the 2m, 70 cm and 23cm bands.

\*\*\*\*\*

## 10-10 Int. Winter Contest, SSB, Feb 1, 0001z to Feb 2, 2359z;

Phone; Bands: 10; 10-10 Member: Name + 10-10 number + (state/province/country), Non-Member: Name + 0 + (state/province/country);  
Logs due: Feb 10.

\*\*\*\*\*

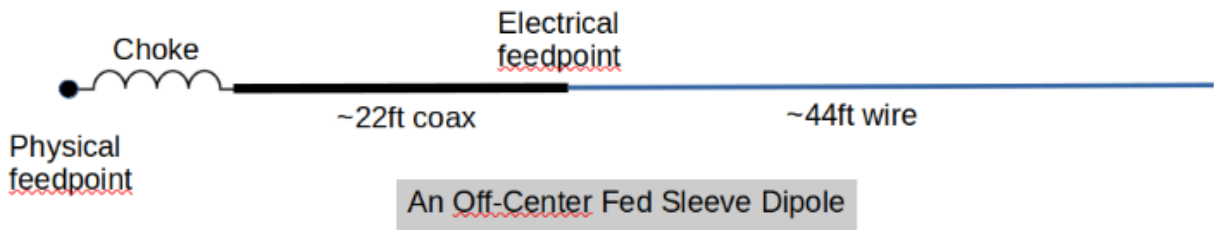
## Did You Know (?) Department?

... what's so great about Ham Radio? Check this out:

<https://www.hamradioschool.com/post/what-s-so-great-about-ham-radio>

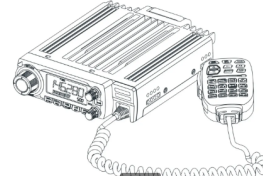
\*\*\*\*\*

**You POTA folks:** why not try an off-center fed sleeve dipole? An end fed needs a counterpoise. This antenna does not:



Details can be found [HERE](#)

\*\*\*\*\*




- What you need (?) Department:

## Locating an intermittent interferer using a KRAKENS DR check out this tutorial:

[Locating an intermittent interferer with the Kraken SDR](#) (link to video)

Mouser has 870 KRAKENS DR's in stock!??

### KRAKENS DR-01




Images are for reference only  
See Product Specifications

[Share](#)

**Mouser #:** 392-KRAKENS DR-01  
**Mfr. #:** KRAKENS DR-01  
**Mfr.:** [KrakenRF](#)  
**Customer #:**

**Description:** RF Modules A phase-coherent software-defined radio with five RTL-SDRs assembled in an aluminum enclosure and individually tested.

**ECAD Model:**  [Request Free CAD Models](#)

Download the free [Library Loader](#) to convert this file for your ECAD Tool. [Learn more about ECAD Model.](#)

**More Information** [Learn more about KrakenRF KRAKENS DR-01](#)

### In Stock: 870

**Stock:** 870 Can Ship Immediately  
**Factory Lead-Time:** 9 Weeks [?](#)

Minimum: 1 Multiples: 1

Enter Quantity:  [Buy](#)

**Pricing (USD)**  
Tariff may apply to this part if shipping to the United States.

Qty.	Unit Price	Ext. Price
1	\$499.00	\$499.00

## ARRL Dual band MOXON antenna: \$329.95 including shipping

### ARRL Dual-Band Momobeam 6/10-Meter Beam Antenna

Reviewed by Phil Salas, AD5X  
[ad5x@arri.net](mailto:ad5x@arri.net)

With the current Solar Cycle 25, both the 10- and 6-meter bands are having some nice openings. Enter the new ARRL Dual-Band Momobeam. This antenna is produced for ARRL by Momobeam, an Italian manufacturer. It consists of a two-element 6-meter Yagi and a 10-meter Moxon. It is lightweight and mast-mountable, and includes extra hardware for fixed and portable use.

The Moxon antenna, named after Les Moxon, G6XN, is a two-element directional antenna. The 6-meter portion of the antenna consists of a two-element Yagi. The advantage of the Moxon 10-meter antenna is that the 6-meter Yagi fits nicely within the footprint of the





## New SO2R switch from DX Engineering:



... if you happen to have four radios and don't know what to do with them.

\*\*\*\*\*

## Looking for a roof tripod? They've been hard to find for a while:

**Roof Towers Are Back!**

*Limited lot space? Need a 2nd tower?*

- All-aluminum heavy-duty design
- Laser-cut for precision fit
- Easy assembly, self-aligning
- 4 models, 4-ft to 8-ft

 **CARLSON Roof Towers**  
A SOLID BASE FOR CLEAR COMMUNICATION





The advertisement features a background illustration of a roof tower on a tripod, a satellite in orbit, and a moon in a blue sky. The roof tower is a tall, thin structure with a horizontal boom and a vertical mast.

rooftowers.com | 707-223-4000  
sales@rooftowers.com  
Also available at DX Engineering

- Supports 2-axis Az-El rotator
- Ideal for hex beam, ISS & satellite
- Up to 15 sq. ft. wind loading

\*\*\*\*\*

I've started a swap meet section of the newsletter in the appendix below and it works! Stuff is selling. **Send me pictures and details of what treasures you may want to sell.**

Share your achievements, activities, and projects with your fellow LRA members! Send me your photos! Post on the HH forum and I'll pick them up.

**73, Fred, K9SO**

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

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

# APPENDIX I, upcoming events:



Hamcathon in Orlando. Many LRA members are planning to attend. Feb 7-9

The 3rd annual [HamCation POTA Meet-up](#) will take place in Apopka, Florida on February 6th. Participants will gather at [Wekiwa Springs State Park](#) from 9:00 AM to 4:00 PM. The event will include a park activation, door prizes, lunch, and more. More information is available from the [event flyer](#) [PDF].

\*\*\*\*\*

## DAYTON! The big one is coming in May!

### Get your tickets for the show!

Tickets are available online or at our ticket sales locations only.

We do not accept checks or mail in orders.

So click below the link to purchase your 2025 Hamvention tickets.

[Buy Tickets Online](#)

Early Bird Discount \$26 thru Feb 28  
\$30 March 1 and later

A ticket includes:

- Admission to the show for Friday, Saturday and Sunday
- All forums and special speakers in the show
- Prize Drawing

Once tickets are mailed, they are non-refundable.



2025 – May 16, 17 & 18

## 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.

## For sale: “Life’s too short for QRP”:

 In-Stock  Free Shipping!



## AMERITRON ALS-1306

Linear Amplifier 1200 Watts HF + 6 Meters  
Solid State RF Deck - ARI-500 Built In

**HRO Discount Price: \$3,998.95\***

 Buy It

\*After Coupons & Promotions.

 Post

 Save

 Add To Wish List

My pre-MFJ 1306 is for sale for \$2900  
**K9SO**. \$1100 off retail

\*\*\*\*\*

From **N9OIG**:

Icom 7300 \$700 (not actual photo of unit)



\*\*\*\*\*

“If anyone is looking for some voip phones I have 2 polycom(color) & 2 cisco phones up for grabs. I can bring them to the next Ira meeting. Or we can meet up. Let me know 73”  
**Pete K9PJC**

\*\*\*\*\*

**N9OIG:** Yaesu FTM891 with remote kit FT-8 interface Automatic Antenna Tuner MAT-Y200 and Remote rig. \$750 without remote rig.\$1000 with everything



(stock photo of unit)



\*\*\*\*\*

**Jen, K9UET** is selling her Anytone AT-D578UV8 PLUS. Everything is included as in the photo for just \$400

