



Lakeshore Repeater Association, Inc.

KR9RK.ORG / KR9RK.COM

Newsletter: July 1, 2024

113 Members Strong!

William K Fedderly - KD4PVG has joined LRA in June. Welcome William!
Congratulations to Pierre, KD9SSY who passed his Extra Class exam!



From the board

Contact the board members via email at Board@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)



... to Support the LRA Activities in July

After a busy June, the summer doldrums are setting in. Besides watching the corn grow, our only scheduled activity is the general membership meeting on Tuesday, July 30. But don't forget to pencil in August 4 as that's the date for the grand LRA summer picnic.

Quarterly Meeting Presentations:

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

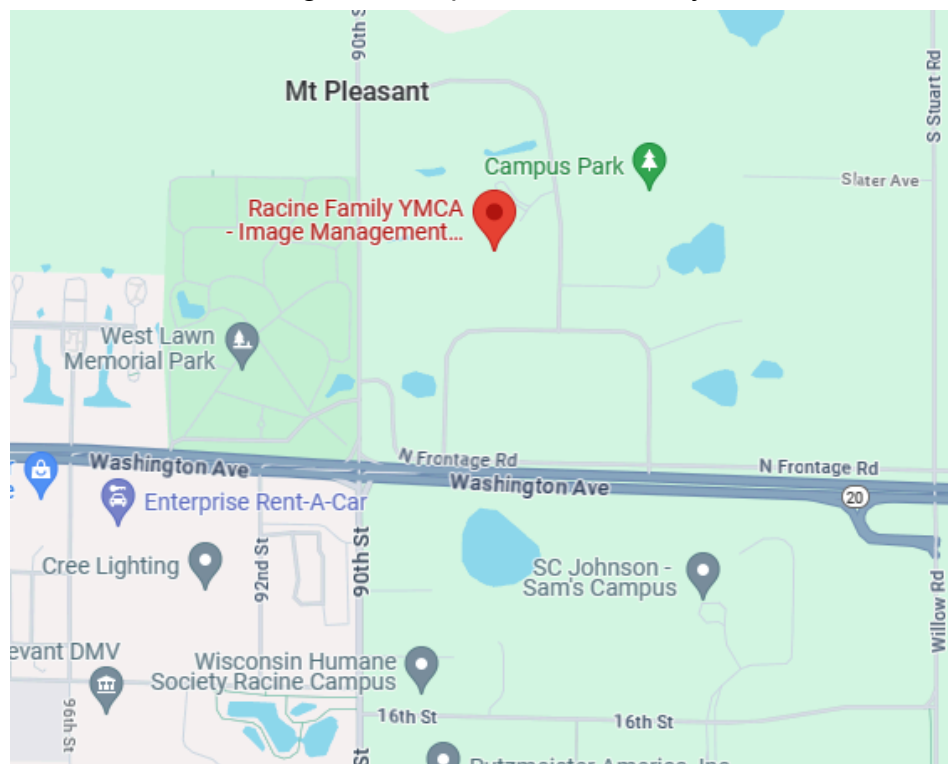


NEW HOURS! NEW LOCATION!

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 July 30 and it will be held at our **new location** for this and future quarters. Doors will open at 6:30pm and **a tech talk (if any) will begin at 6:45 sharp**. Per LRA bylaws, only members physically present and in good standing for more than 30 days may vote on issues brought up at the meeting.

We have allotted time for a 30 minute tech talk at the start of this meeting led by one of our members so **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.

I will be presenting a lightning protection “Fred Talk” at the start of the July meeting. The business meeting will take place immediately after the tech talk.





LRA Member Activities:

Foxhunts



There was no Fox Hunt in June.

Next Fox Hunt will be on the second Saturday of July 7/13/2024. 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 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.

Another practice net was held on May 30 after the Happy Hour led by **Rick, KC9UJO**. Great job, Rick!

The 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.

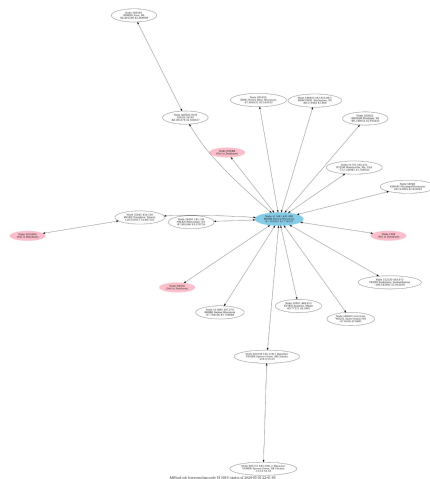
Happy Hour, LRA Style



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.

Incidentally, **Tom, N9BUN**, started this “Chicken” thing. Everyone used to jump in and say “Check-in” very fast. Tom started to say “Chicken” and it caught on.

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 lately 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.
during May 30 HH

The UHF machine “bubble chart”

BV5DJ, Gabriel (also AD8LG) joined us from Taiwan on 5/30. He found us by searching for the node with the most connections! World wide!

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



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.

"This week we sent a one-line check-in with a confirmation of completion of the Zone Weather catalog request tutorial on the second line. For those of us in the US, this tutorial returned a National Weather Service Zone Forecast for your area. In Pete's case, VA7YBW, Environment Canada.

Good work everyone!! I had a lot of fun putting the tutorial and this roster together this week.

I also appreciated the positive feedback regarding the tutorial. I have really enjoyed exploring and learning about Winlink with our group. More tutorials to come!!"

Freefest June 8

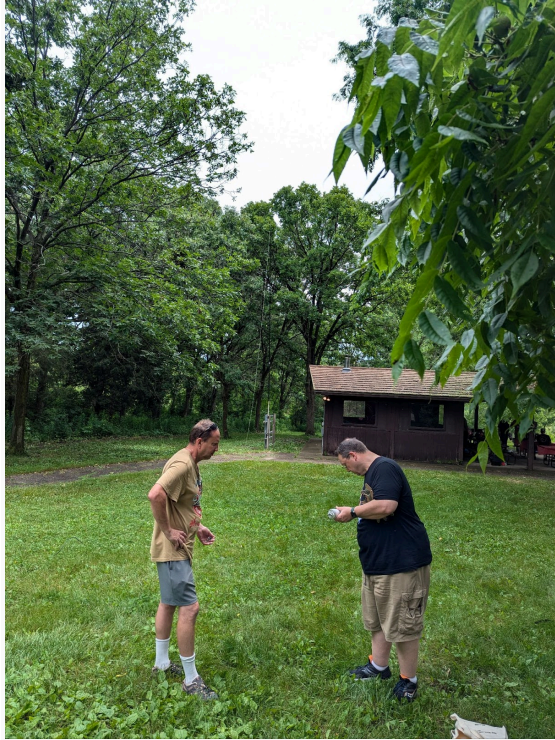
We had a great turnout for the Freefest to kick off our summer activities. We didn't get many pictures submitted for the Newsletter, but here are a couple of good lookin' Hams enjoying the day:



Craig, KD9UQE, Robin, WB9COW, and Bruce K9WBT

Taste of Field Day, June 22, 2024

What a fun afternoon at the “Taste”. Over 30 participants enjoyed the shortened Field Day activities. At one point we had 7 active stations in operation. Thanks to everyone who once again made this a success this year. A special shout-out to **Bernie, N9AZA** who was our cook, operated a late evening weather net, and acted as Happy Hour moderator ... ALL ON THE SAME DAY!!









My old radio club in Elmhurst got some really great publicity:





New Glarus Brewing Co.

Jeff, KC9JOB and I scored a couple of “Hard Hat Tour” tickets and got to see “FAT SQUIRREL” brewing. I hope it’s enough to go around this year:





Tom, **W9FL** posted notice of a LiFePO4 battery sale. He used this battery as the foundation for his home-brew “battery box” I highlighted in last month’s newsletter. It’s worth repeating here:



This prompted a discussion about LiFePO4 battery charging. **Brad, K9WNG** was very helpful in enlightening me with his explanation of Battery Management Systems (BMS) and chargers as I never had experience with that battery chemistry. He built his own battery box years ago for his sump pump to avoid the constant replacement of lead acid

batteries. He fitted it with an external BMS and put it all in a battery box when finished. Maybe we can convince him to post more detailed construction information:



Parachute Mobile

Scott, W9AFB just worked K9OL parachute mobile from Indiana on 146.52 just by accident (he monitors that channel). **Brad, K9WNG** advises he's been doing this for years but it was a lucky catch for Scott. Details [HERE](#)





Q: What do you call 1 kilogram of falling figs?

A: 1 Fig Newton

Q: Why does hamburger have lower energy than steak?

A: Because it's in the ground state.

A photon walks into a hotel. The desk clerk says, "Welcome to our hotel. Can we help you with your luggage?" The photon says, "No thanks, I'm traveling light."



Q: What is a nuclear physicist's favorite meal?

A: Fission Chips.

A man was recently cooled to absolute zero- but he's 0K now.

Contesting/Operating Corner



ARRL Publications (all come with membership):



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

BREAKING NEWS

Updates about the ARRL network hacks: Get in line!

Updated 6/21/2024

ARRL staff continue to work with outside industry experts to ensure that all servers have been remediated, tested, and all data has been confirmed. We have also been working to ensure that the network is secure.

As noted in previous updates, Logbook of The World® servers and data are fine and working. LoTW® has dependencies on other servers, for example membership data, which have not yet been returned to service. We will announce when LoTW is open for user access. We anticipate that the queue will grow quite large once live, and we are evaluating ways to manage that potential issue.

MFJ Ceasing Operations

As I announced last month, MFJ has ceased operations in their Mississippi plant. This leaves a big hole in the Amateur Radio accessory market with brands like Ameritron, CushCraft, Mirage, Vectronics, and HyGain all suddenly disappearing from the marketplace. Hundreds of MFJ accessories are gone too. It's hard to imagine that some of these iconic brands won't be picked up by someone. We hope so. They will continue sales/repair/support operations only until existing inventory is sold.

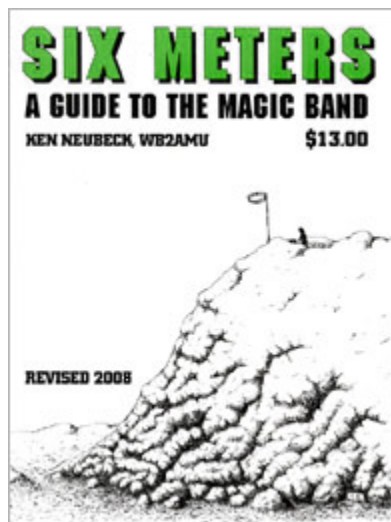
In the meanwhile, all MFJ advertising in ARRL publications suddenly ceased starting with the July issue of QST magazine. Between all of their brands, MFJ took out 6-8 full page advertisements every month. I'm guessing that this will mean an almost \$40,000 / month hit out of the ARRL budget. I hope they can survive that.

AIISTARLINK ASL Version3 Released

A nice YouTube instructional video is [HERE](#) . Thanks to Derick, VE5SD for bringing this to my attention.

Stuff You Need (?) Department:

Scott, W9AFB directed us to an old favorite book about 6m operating:



A new Xiegu 8w SDR transceiver was announced last month:



Details here: [Xiegu X6200](#)

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. 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

APPENDIX I, upcoming hamfests:

**July 6, 2024 – South Milwaukee ARC Hamfest Location: South Milwaukee, WI
Sponsor: South Milwaukee ARC WI9SM Website: www.wi9sm.org**

**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 Radion 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.

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

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