



UNDERLINED TEXT IN THIS NEWSLETTER ARE LINKS TO OTHER SITES

Newsletter: May 1, 2025

Lakeshore Repeater Association, Inc.

KR9RK.ORG / KR9RK.COM

Memberships spanning 3 countries and two continents! 116 active members and still growing!

This month we welcomed:

Kevin, KE9AQT Spring Grove, Il. joined 4/21

Dan, KA9OIL Franksville, Wi. joined 4/29

Gail, KE9SW Franksville, Wi. joined 4/1

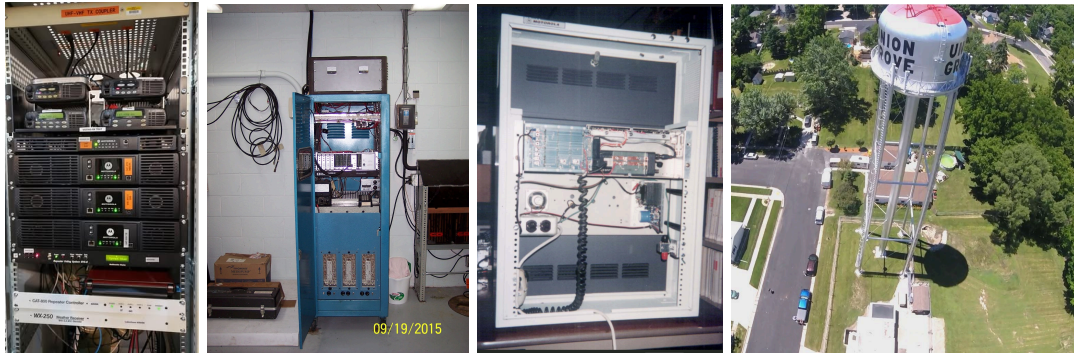
Project North Star fundraising:

\$3500/\$4000 (88%). We're almost there! Consider a contribution to our GoFundMe drive at KR9RK.com so this isn't a burden to normal club operations. Recent donations following the membership meeting have been coming in. Required "Gap" funding is down to \$500. Let's get it across the finish line.

Treasurer **Rick, KC9UJO** has advised that he's setting up a separate bank account for the project so that expenses can be carefully monitored.

Expenses for the first year are covered in the "\$4K" plan, so we have time to discuss how this will be funded in subsequent years. Annual expenses are estimated at \$600 (Internet and electricity). Hopefully this can become a revenue source rather than a burden.

Historic KR9RK Pictures



From the board

Contact the board members via email at Board@KR9RK.COM

The board has authorized the following 2025 activities. WOW! What a year!

- Healthy Kid's Day at the YMCA
- "The Taste of Field Day" on Saturday, June 28 from 12:00 to 5:00pm. Shelter #1 Richard Bong State Park
- Summer Picnic at the Racine County Fairgrounds (Settler's Park) probably August 2, but date TBD
- 50th Anniversary special event station K5O during the weekend of September 21. Members can sign up for times to use the K5O callsign with the new club HF station or operate their own stations. A reservation system will be online.
- Annual Christmas Party, December (TBD)

Kevin, KB9LLV has been appointed club events coordinator for the LRA

Jen, K9UET has accepted the new role of SOCIAL MEDIA CHAIRPERSON. Jen will coordinate the public face and content of LRA's social media pages, especially Facebook.

Bylaw amendment proposal:

Our club is growing with International members from Scotland and Canada while spanning multiple states including California, Minnesota, and Texas. At the April general membership meeting, I (K9SO) raised the question regarding voting which is currently restricted to members physically present at club functions. The discussion that followed indicated a general willingness of the members to pursue an amendment to the Bylaws.

Matt, AF9Q indicated that our use of Ham Clubs On Line allowed for secure and private remote voting. Greg, W9GTH volunteered to draft an amendment for later consideration.

Bylaw changes are intentionally drawn out affairs, so while this may be presented at the next meeting, a final vote may still be further down the line.

Activities

Healthy Kids Day at the YMCA

It just keeps getting better year on year. Continuing the LRA support of this annual, we once again had a demonstration booth where we demonstrated the thrills of Ham Radio and our community services.

Rick, KC9UJO, Jen, K9UET, Bruce, K9WBT, Dwayne, N9PYA, and Bernie, N9AZA all attended. **Fred, K9SO** aka “Grandpa Ham” for the event participated from the other end of the radio connections.



A proud Mom looking on as her daughter has her first QSO.

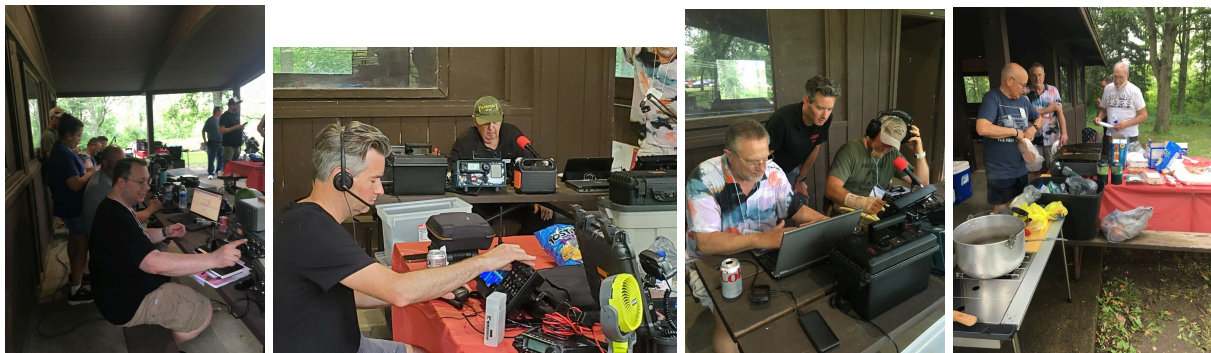


I think this picture really captures the day at the event.

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. Several members are planning on camping out for the weekend. Contact **Kevin, KB9LLV** for more information. 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:



Our HamClubsOnLine activation has been completed thanks to **Matt AF9Q**'s efforts. This gives us a strong club management tool. By now you should have received some notices. Many functions of our club are now automated.

No need, but you may want to log into [HamClubOnline](https://hamclubonline.org) just to see the benefits this brings to the LRA. If you're a member, simply set up your own password.

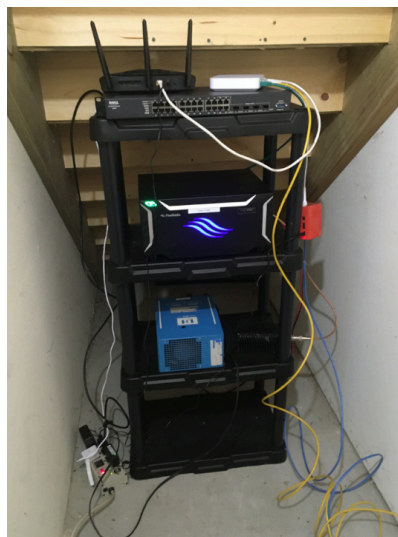
It was UNANIMOUS!

KR9RK Remote HF Station: LRA Project North Star

The membership enthusiastically listened to the Project Committee's final presentation and unanimously approved the project and its funding at the April 29 general meeting.

The presentation may be viewed here: [April 29 North Star Update](#)

The committee has already been hard at work and installed our first test station at the Raymond, Wisconsin radio site. It will be modest at first, but the vision is amazing.



In the early days on the prairie, farmers used to join up for a “barn raising”. On Monday, April 28, **Rick, KC9UJO** assembled a team of “antenna raising” construction volunteers (**Bernie N9AZA, Jeff KC9JOB, Fred K9SO, Craig KD9UQE, and Tom KA9KJE**) and they raised our first ever HF antenna. It's a Gap Titan and she's a beauty. Braving wind gusts of up to 50mph, the team repaired the antenna which had previously been badly damaged from the everpresent winds and installed it atop a new Rohn 25g tower section. A new set of Dacron guy lines should prevent future damage:



[Newly installed Titan Gap antenna at the Raymond site](#)





I've been trying it out. Six countries worked already including Australia, Caribbean, and Europe. That's on CW, but I've worked a dozen or so POTA stations on SSB. Bruce, K9WBT has been operating FT-8.

When operating, **you'll be using your own call** under your own operating privileges. No need for "/9" or any other kind of identification. This is YOUR RADIO. Use of the KR9RK callsign is restricted. No extended operating privileges are included. Since it's your license, it's your responsibility to stay in band and operate legally. Now's your reason to upgrade!

Steps to check it out. We're opening it up to beta testing first for **GoFundMe** donors:

1. Contact **Matt, AF9Q** (Secretary@KR9RK.COM) to get your Wireguard VPN credentials and instructions
2. Contact **Bruce, K9WBT** (K9WBT.HAM@GMAIL.COM) for your live training and system certification (**Tom, KA9KJE** was his first "trainee" yesterday)
3. Contact **Fred, K9SO** (VP@KR9RK.COM) to schedule some air time and get your station control PIN set up.
4. Have Fun!



It's TICK PICKING TIME! Early in the season, but they were out in force.

We need you

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

At an earlier 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, July 29** and it will be held at our **new YMCA location** in Mt. Pleasant. Starting time is 6:30pm central time. We live stream these events if you would like to participate remotely but currently, by LRA bylaws, only participants attending the meeting in person may vote.



LRA Member Activities:



From **Dan, WX9EMS**:

If y'all remember, last weekend my wife and I installed four packages of bees. The photo below shows what a package of bees looks like. This one in particular is a 2 lb package containing roughly 7,000 bees. What we picked up are 4 lb packages that contain 14,000 bees.



Dan runs the White Pigeon Apiary near Lake Geneva where you can enjoy some of his fares:



Bruce, K9WBT shared this recording made by his son's band
Sharing this for Earth Day.

"My son's band recorded this video at the Aldo Leopold Nature Center in the old cabin.

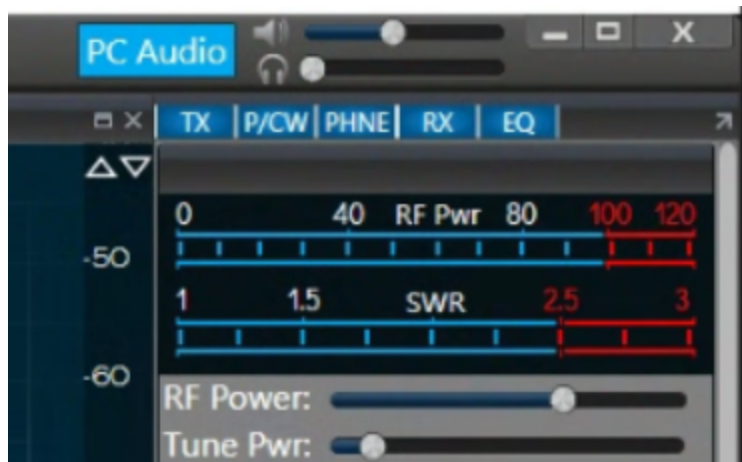
<https://aldoleopoldnaturecenter.org/>

The song is about conservation and nature.

<https://youtu.be/pt6iJ1wi9Y8?si=TklXGvl3nSeUQk3F>"

Angelo, KD9QVW, organized a POTA campout on April 26. Unfortunately, they didn't share any pictures, but I hear they had a great time.

Bruce, K9WBT, also posted a well received instruction sheet titled "How to Flex Like a Pro" check it out [HERE](#). Certainly a good read if you have any plans on operating the club HF station.



From Scott, W9AFB:

Here are a few useful links for local (IL/WI) ham stuff.

<https://www.amateurradioevents.com>

Area Nets

<http://tinyurl.com/chicago-ham-nets>

Area Hamfests

<http://tinyurl.com/chihamfests>



Bernie, N9AZA, is our SKYWARN coordinator for the LRA. Summer is finally approaching. Be sure to participate in the practice nets. We've already had two this season.

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

Happy Hour, LRA Style: our 5th year



It seems we're setting new check-in records every month nowadays. **Jen, K9UET**, made the moderator leaderboard with an amazing 54 checkins last week ... and she's just getting started!

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

ARES/RACES AND LRA PUBLIC SERVICE NET.



From Tom, KA9KJE (SE District Emergency Coordinator):

Greetings ARES/RACES and friends

As Discussed in our last in person meeting on the 6th of Feb we wanted to explore the possibility of doing more of our nets on the KR9RK repeater. After talking to Dwayne and Fred, they are happy to have us do more nets on the KR9RK Repeater. We are planning to start Next month Looking for feedback on this ideal. And as always looking for more net controls operators for one or more net dates. We will start out with the 1st and 3rd Wednesdays at 7:30pm for now and possibly expand to

more days in a month. We will continue to have at least 1 Simplex practice a month to keep our simplex skills going. Also the Wisconsin Marathon is coming up soon and we are looking for volunteers and need to discuss whether we continue using Simplex or KR9RK repeater or both. Thanks and have a great day

Tom Burger-KA9KJE Racine / Kenosha Emergency Coordinator, Wisconsin
Southeast District Emergency Coordinator

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

Project Pages:



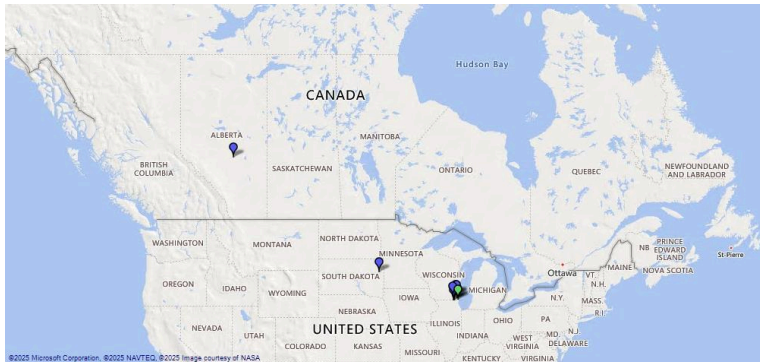
[send me pictures of your latest projects!]

Members are encouraged to participate in discussions and watch for Project North Star updates on PROJECT NORTH STAR on groups.io ... search for it on the Groups.io website and sign up!

Jeff and I built up 4 more MORCONI devices, one of which is now controlling the antenna switches at the Raymond site.



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 and growing roster. :



April 23:

"It's always fun to see what you come up with; good work by everyone. Fred even sent extra credit.

As exported from CSV; in order of appearance:

VE6XAD Chad, Spruce Grove, AB, Canada, VARA HF

W0JT Chris, Socorro, Socorro, NM, Vara HF

KC9HYY NATHAN, TROY, WALWORTH, WI, USA (hf)

W09B HRM Emergency Management Message

W9ABE Hawaii Siren Report

K9WNG Brad, Lake Geneva, Walworth, WI, HF

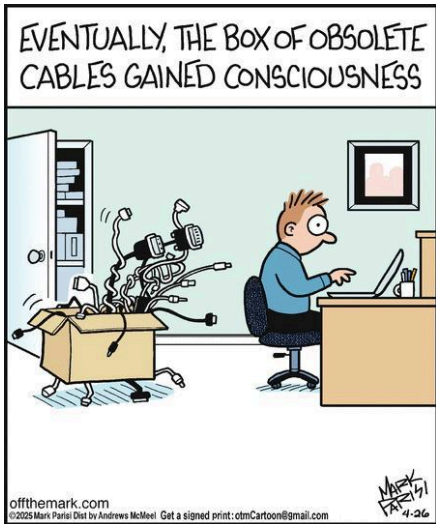
K9SO Bulletin

K9SO ARC 213 Message Initial

KDIZ Bill, Kenosha, Kenosha, WI, telnet

N9UUO John, Raymond, Racine, WI, telnet

K9WBT (NCS)



STACKOVERFLOW

He must be a CW operator...



Contesting/Operating Corner



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

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

May 1

- Walk for the Bacon QRP Contest
- CWops Test (CWT)
- AGCW QRP/QRP Party
- NRAU 10m Activity Contest
- SKCC Sprint Europe

May 2

- NCCC FT4 Sprint
- Weekly RTTY Test
- NCCC Sprint
- K1USN Slow Speed Test

May 3

- 10-10 International Spring Contest, CW
- RCC Cup
- SBMS 2.3 GHz and Up Contest and Club Challenge
- Microwave Spring Sprint
- ARI International DX Contest
- F9AA Cup, PSK

- 7th Call Area QSO Party
- Indiana QSO Party
- Delaware QSO Party
- New England QSO Party

May 4

- WAB 7 MHz Phone
- MIE 33 Contest

May 5

- K1USN Slow Speed Test
- ICWC Medium Speed Test
- OK1WC Memorial (MWC)

May 6

- ARS Spartan Sprint
- Worldwide Sideband Activity Contest
- ICWC Medium Speed Test

May 7

- Phone Weekly Test
- A1Club AWT
- CWops Test (CWT)
- VHF-UHF FT8 Activity Contest
- Mini-Test 40

ARMED FORCES DAY CROSSBAND TEST

ARLX005 Annual Armed Forces Day Crossband Test scheduled for
Saturday, May 10, 2025

The Annual Armed Forces Day (AFD) Crossband Test, hosted by the Department of Defense, is scheduled for Saturday, May 10, 2025.

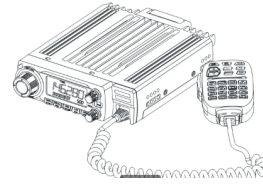
The event will test two-way communications between military stations and amateur radio operators as authorized by the Federal Communications Commission in Title 47 of the Code of Federal Regulations 47 CFR 97.111. The test provides opportunities, and challenges, for operators to test their individual technical skills in a controlled scenario that will not impact public or private communications.

The annual DOD message will be transmitted via RTTY on 14667.0 kHz at 1400 and 2000 UTC. Military stations will transmit on selected military frequencies and announce the specific amateur radio service frequencies that will be monitored.

All scheduled times will be in UTC, and all scheduled transmissions will be upper sideband (USB), unless otherwise noted. Frequencies, times, and other technical information can be found at the DoD MARS - Armed Forces Day site at:
www.dodmars.org/mars-comex-information-website/armed-forces-day.

Those who wish to document their contacts with a QSL card should visit
www.usarmymars.org/armed-forces-day-qsl-card-request and complete the request form. For more than 50 years, military and amateur stations have taken part in this event.

What you need (?) Department:



The Ham Radio Dude POTA meetup at Big Foot Beach State Park yesterday was a great time. Sean and I (K9WBT) did a short demonstration for his channel of the Lynovation CTR2-DIAL midi controller for SmartSDR on iOS.

The CTR2-DIAL is the latest midi controller offering from Lynovation for use with FlexRadio and the iOS app, SmartSDR. It incorporates the M5 Dial device and is a must have if you are using an iPad (or iPhone) with your FlexRadio; in my opinion.

Link below:

<https://youtu.be/E1ggxiKWvsE?si=1Jj8gSfsqM-NtvpJ>

Enjoy.

~K9WBT

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

This newsletter was authorized by the LRA Secretary, AF9Q

APPENDIX I, upcoming events:

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

Area Hamfests

[CLICK HERE](#)



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.

From Bernie, N9AZA:

AnyTone AT-5888UV Mobile Transceiver Dual-Band VHF (2M) & UHF (70cm) 50W/40W Vehicle Radio with Programming Cable!

1. AnyTone Dual-Band Mobile Transceiver Radio, feature Full Twin Display and Receive, Cross Band Repeater mode, Remote Mountable Faceplate. Frequency Range: VHF/UHF. FCC ID: T4K-588UVBPLUS

2. High Power Output: 50 Watts on VHF band and 40 Watts on UHF band, Built-in speakers in both radio and microphone, Built-in cooling fan

3. Features & Functions: 758CH, 2Tone/5Tone, CTCSS/DCS, ANI, DTMF, Squelch Level setup, Busy Channel Lockout, VFO, TOT, APO, keypad lockout, wide/narrow band, High/Mid/Low power setup & more!

4. Easy to program via PC, FREE software download at AnyTone official website, the links printed in the user guide and radio box. CHIRP SUPPORT !

5. Package Contents: Radio Unit, Programming Cable, Speaker Microphone, Mobile mounting bracket, DC power cable with fuse holder, Screws for bracket, User manual!

Currently listed on:

letsgetreadyinc.com/ for \$249.00

www.anyradios.com/ \$274.00

www.amazon.com \$240.00

