



# RRRC NEWS

MONTHLY PUBLICATION OF THE ROCK RIVER RADIO CLUB



Volume 45 Number 9

www.rrrc.net

SEPTEMBER 2024

## SEPTEMBER 2024 RRRC

### Meeting Minutes



The monthly meeting of the Rock River Radio Club was held on **SEPTEMBER 3, 2024**, using Zoom meetings. by Vice President Ryan Klavekoske ,KB9OWD,. The meeting was called it to order at **7:25** pm CST

**SECRETARY REPORT** Ray Teschke, KD9QLE,  
Secretary presented the minutes of the **AUGUST** meeting as published in the **AUGUST** Newsletter.

Motion to approve by: Ralph Hasler, N9WBL  
Second by: Dennis Weigel, KC9ICA  
Motion Carried

**TREASURER REPORT** Dave DePover K9MKP  
Motion to approve by: Ralph Hasler, N9WBL  
Second by: Ray Teschke, KD9QLE,  
Motion Carried

### COMMITTEE REPORTS

**ARES/REPEATER:** Dale Marks, WB9ADB

ARES is still having issues with their equipment.

**TRAILER:** Len Buchda, KB9GDY Absent. It was reported that the trailer had a blown tire.

**REPEATER:** Dale Marks, WB9ADB

Nothing new to report.

**FIELD DAY** Dale Marks, WB9ADB

Nothing to report.

**KNOWLES / MAYVILLE WIRES-X NODE** Brad Gehrt, KA9JDE, reported the node is working well. RRRC member Rod WB9KMO checked into our Thursday evening 440 net from Mesa Arizona last we

### OLD BUSINESS

-A motion to approve Ryan Klavekoske, KB9OWD to be reimbursed for ZOOM renewal.

-FOX HUNT—Meet at north parking lot of Crystal Lake at 1:30pm. See Peter's email for details.

### NEW BUSINESS

-Special Event Station—is scheduled for Saturday October 19th at Horicon Marsh National Refuge.

-Christmas part date— December **1st** at the Bayside Supper Club.

### MOTION TO ADJOURN

Vice President Ryan Klavekoske ,KB9OWD, heard no further business and requested the meeting be adjourned.

Motion to adjourn by: Ralph Hasler, N9WBL

Second by: Ray Teschke, KD9QLE

Motion Carried

### MEETING ADJOURNED AT **7:50pm**

Respectfully Submitted

Raymond Teschke, KD9QLE

Secretary, Rock River Radio Club.

#### President

Peter Frey AD9DO 920-344-1378

#### Vice President

Ryan Klavekoske KB9OWD 920-356-8757

#### Secretary

Ray Teschke KD9QLE 920-210-9540

#### Treasurer

Dave DePover K9MKP 920-210-2209

#### Club Historian

Gary Pedersen KA9BAE 920-386-4666

### 2024 Officers



#### Emergency Coordinator

Dale Marks WB9ADB 920-485-4234

#### Assistant Emergency Coordinator

Ryan Klavekoske KB9OWD 920-356-8757

#### Repeater Directors

Dale Marks WB9ADB 920-485-4234 (Trustee)

Dave DePover K9MKP 920-210-2209

Keith Lodahl, WJ9L 920-387-4675

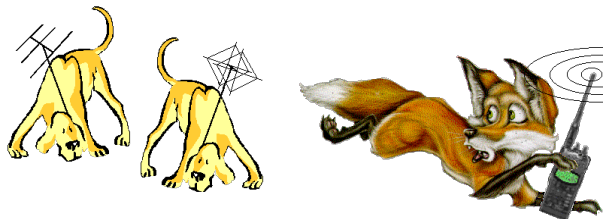
Ray Teschke KD9QLE 920-210-9540

**Webmaster** Lucky Lasanske 920-216-4268



## THANK YOU!

A big "thank you" to RRRC member Rod Fritz, WB9KMO of Mesa, Arizona for his presentation on Amateur TV



Our RRRC Fox Hunt on Sunday, September 9th was a HUGE success. Check out Peter AD9DO's article later in the this newsletter!

## W9TCH Special Event Station

Saturday October 19 around 10 am  
Horicon Marsh Wildlife Preserve Headquarters  
On the east side of the marsh off of Highway Z.  
Come join us!

## SEPTEMBER PROGRAM

Our guest presenter (via Zoom) is Patrick Bolen, KJ7ZSU, the owner of Geochron.

Please join us in-person in Randolph for this exciting presentation. If you are unable to make it, a Zoom Meetings link will be sent out.

**Check out the next page of the newsletter to learn more about Geochron. It is truly an amazing success story. Don't miss it!**

## SUPPORT YOUR LOCAL HAM RADIO CLUB!

Membership form on last page



**THE NEXT MONTHLY MEETING OF THE RRRC WILL BE HELD TUESDAY, **OCTOBER 1st** AT MIKE (KB9LXP) DEJAGER'S, 111 N. HIGH STREET IN RANDOLPH AT 7:00 PM.**

**IF YOU ARE UNABLE TO JOIN US IN-PERSON (WE WOULD LOVE TO SEE YOUR SMILING FACES) A LINK TO JOIN VIA ZOOM MEETINGS**



The monthly RRRC breakfast get-together will be on Saturday, **OCTOBER 5th**, at the Village Garden Restaurant in Juneau. All are welcome, so join us at around 8:00 AM for a pleasant informal gathering.

## RRRC **SEPTEMBER 2024** MEETING ATTENDANCE

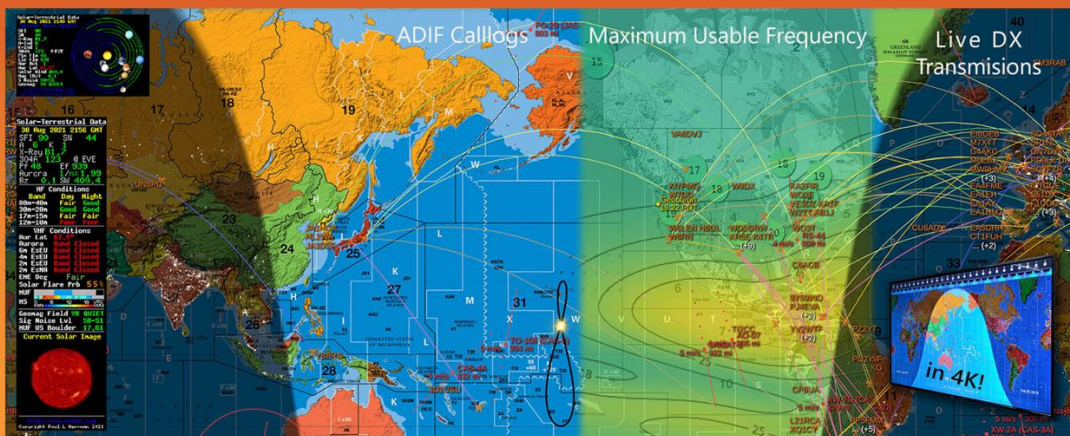
Ray Teschke, KD9QLE, Horicon  
Ryan Klavekoske, KB9OWD, Beaver Dam  
Brad Gehrt, KA9JDE, Rush Lake  
Rod Fritz, WB9KMO, Mesa, AZ  
Jerry Arndt, NO9U, Watertown  
Ralph Hasler, N9WBL, Oconomowoc  
Mike Dejager, KB9LXP, Randolph  
Ted Neuburg, W9LUQ, Waupun  
David DePover, K9MKP, Juneau  
Dale Marks, WB9ADB, Burnett  
Gary Pedersen, KA9BAE, Juneau  
Tim Norbury, W9LUB, Watertown



**October 1, 2024      SPECIAL GUEST SPEAKER      7:00 PM**  
**Live via ZOOM   Patrick Bolan KJ7ZSU   Owner of Geochron**



**Learn about  
Geochron's  
Ham Radio Bundle  
and their history**



**MARK YOUR CALENDAR!**

The Rock River Radio Club has a special treat for you at our October 1, 2024 meeting at 7:00 PM. We have made arrangements with Patrick KJ7ZSU, the owner of Geochron, to do a Zoom presentation for our club! How cool is that?!

What is a Geochron? Here is part of an article from our January 2024 newsletter:

Have you heard of a Geochron? Read on to learn more about this amazing ham shack addition!

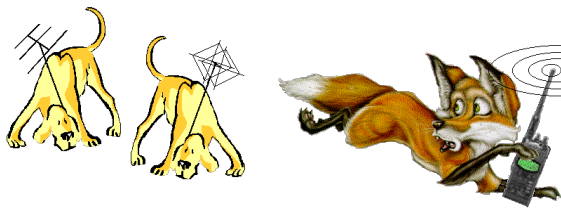


Geochron started making very cool wall mounted mechanical clocks in 1962. The company was originally located in Redwood City, California and at that time Patrick was a young lad living about 5 miles away. They have had several different owners and have relocated a few times over the years. To this day, they still offer handmade, beautiful wall mounted clocks and restore old ones. Each new mechanical clock takes 25 hours to assemble.

In 2015, Patrick Bolan (KJ7ZSU) bought the company. In 2018, Geochron came out with a digital version. It was a very small computer and had an HDMI 4k output so it can be used with any 4k display or TV. The current digital model is called the Atlas 4k Version 2. The digital model gets its data from the Internet, so the possibilities are endless. It has upgradable firmware that is regularly updated with new features. The Atlas 4k simply plugs into your 4k TV. And these days, huge 4K TVs are pretty cheap! The Geochron Atlas 4k is available directly from Geochron, Ham Radio Outlet and DX Engineering.







# Foxy!

By Peter AD9DO

It was great to see so many folks out searching for the Fox. We had excellent weather for the event and there were 6 groups out looking around. It took just under three hours to locate. The first person to put eyes on it was Max, KD9NZB and Michael, AA9RK In that order. Right on their heels, Brad, KA9JDE and granddaughter Lilly came upon it. We plan to do this again in the Spring and Max will have the honor of hiding it. More to come on that in the future.



*Fox Hunt winners:  
1<sup>st</sup> place Max KD9NZB and Michael AA9RK  
2<sup>nd</sup> place Brad KA9JDE and Lilly*

A bit of info on the Fox. During our travels around Hamvention, Cameron won an Arduino kit. After building a weather station with it, we decided to try and create a Fox transmitter. With some help from the internet, we were able to construct one. The Arduino itself is similar to a Raspberry Pi in some respects. It's basically a tiny computer. With some creative soldering and programming, we were able to send out a tone and Cameron's call sign via Morse Code.

We did learn some on the Fox Hunt and plan to shorten the time between transmissions and get a bigger battery for it. Although, three hours of run time was pretty good, we can always do better. If we decrease the time between transmission, the battery will go out sooner.

All in all, I think everyone had a good time and look forward to doing this again. If anyone has suggestions, please let us know.

All the best,

Peter AD9DO



*Meet the Fox!*



*The Fox was cleverly hidden in the Shaw Marsh Wildlife Area next to a metal Quonset Hut on Blackbird Road*





*We had a GREAT turnout!*



*Club president Peter AD9DO explaining the Fox Hunt rules*



*Mike KB9LXP and Len KB9GDY*



*Brad KA9JDE and his granddaughter Lilly*



*Dennis KC9ICA and Dale WB9ADB*



*Ray KD9QLE and Dave K9MKP*



*Max KD9NZB finds the FOX!!!!*



*Cameron KD9VGV, Peter AD9DO, Peter and Oliver*

Thanks to Michael AA9RK, Peter AD9DO and Brad KA9JDE for sharing photos of the event!

Also thank you to everyone that participated in our first Fox Hunt in many, many years!

Lastly, thank you to Peter AD9DO and Cameron KD9VGV for organizing this FUN event!



# NEW Winlink Vara FM / Packet Winlink Gateway

By Brad KA9JDE

**What the heck is Winlink?** Winlink, also known as Winlink Global Radio Email, is a worldwide radio messaging system. It uses amateur radio frequencies to provide various services, including:

- Email with attachments
- Position reporting
- Weather bulletins
- Emergency and relief communications
- Message relay

This system is particularly valuable in situations where the internet is unavailable, such as remote locations or during emergencies

**What the heck is a Winlink Gateway?** A Winlink gateway is a station that connects amateur radio operators to the internet, allowing them to send and receive emails over radio frequencies. These gateways are crucial in emergencies when traditional local cell phone and internet connections might be unavailable.

Winlink gateways can operate on various frequencies, including HF, VHF, and UHF. They use specialized software and hardware to facilitate this communication, ensuring that critical information can be transferred even over long distances.

**We are happy to announce we are testing a new Winlink Gateway at KA9JDE's QTH, 10 miles north of Ripon. The call is KA9JDE-10 and operates on 145.61 MHz. It took quite a bit of effort to get this up and running. A BIG thank you to Len KB9GDY, Dale WB9ADB, Kevin KC9YPK and Brad KA9JDE that helped make this a possibility. All at no cost to the RRRC.**

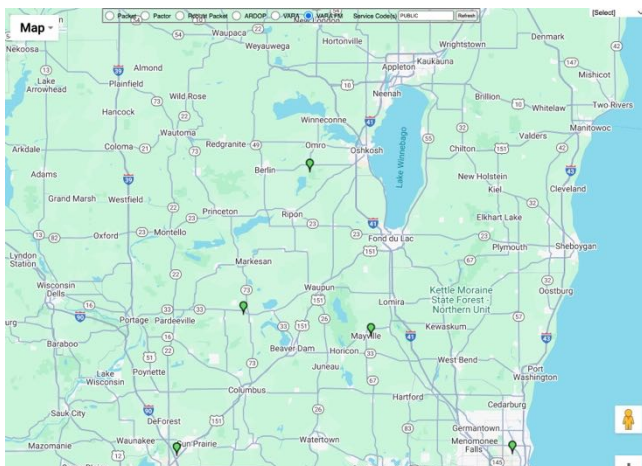


*The RRRC's mobile tower setup*

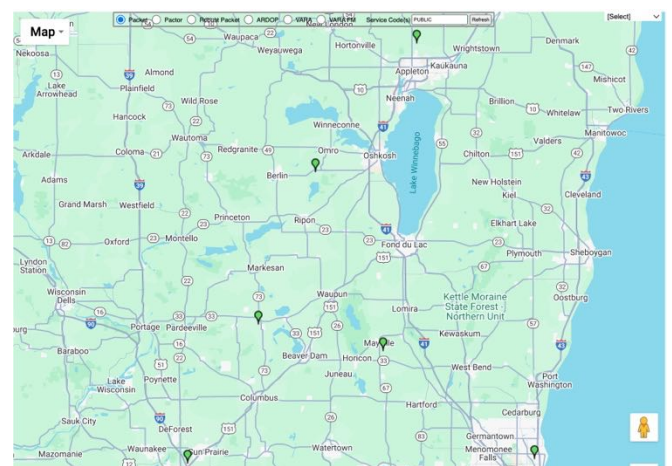
## New Winlink Gateway Features:

- ☐ If cell service and/or the Internet are not available in Dodge County (due to a tornado, etc.), these services may still be available north of Ripon.
- ☐ 20kw automatic whole house backup generator.
- ☐ Gateway is 24/7
- ☐ Once you learn how to use the WinLink software, you can send email or texts to the Winlink Gateway via radio.
- ☐ Messages can be sent via Vara FM or via Packet Winlink.
- ☐ Good coverage. Dale, WB9ADB, our Dodge County Emergency Coordinator, is able to access the new Gateway. That is via 2 meter simplex at a distance of about 35 miles using Dale's omni-directional Discone antenna.
- ☐ The gateway uses a Diamond CP22E 9' fiberglass antenna at about 40'.

Other current Winlink Gateways in Dodge County are KC9YPK-10 in Mayville and KB9GDY-10 in Randolph.



*Vara FM Winlink Gateways in our area*



*Packet Winlink Gateways in our area*

# UPCOMING HAMFESTS

## HRO Superfest

---

### HAMFEST/CONVENTION

09/20/2024

**Start Date:** 09/20/2024

**End Date:** 09/21/2024

**Location:** Ham Radio Outlet Milwaukee

5710 W. Good Hope Rd.

Milwaukee, WI 53201

**Sponsor:** Ham Radio Outlet

**Type:** ARRL Hamfest

**Talk-In:** 145.130 127.3 pl

**Public Contact:** Tom Pachner , W9TJP

5710 W. Good Hope Rd. Milwaukee, WI 53223

Phone: 414-358-0333

**Email:** [w9tjp@hamradio.com](mailto:w9tjp@hamradio.com)

## Hidden Valleys Amateur Radio Club 1st Annual Hamfest

---

### HAMFEST/CONVENTION

10/19/2024

**Start Date:** 10/19/2024

**End Date:** 10/19/2024

**Location:** Grant County Fair Grounds Youth and Ag Building

916 East Elm Street (county road A)

Lancaster, WI 53813

**Sponsor:** Hidden Valleys Amateur Radio Club

**Type:** ARRL Hamfest

**Talk-In:** 146.52 / simplex

**Public Contact:** Alvin Bontreger , KC9MCC

8123 County Road U P.O. Box 100 Beetown, WI 53802

Phone: 608-732-2660

**Email:** [HVARChamfest@gmail.com](mailto:HVARChamfest@gmail.com)

## Wisconsin ARES/RACES Conference 2024, ARRL Wisconsin State Convention

---

### HAMFEST/CONVENTION

11/02/2024

**Start Date:** 11/02/2024

**End Date:** 11/02/2024

**Location:** McMillan Memorial Library

490 E. Grand Ave.

Wisconsin Rapids, WI 54494

**Website:** <https://wi-arrl.org/>

**Sponsor:** WeComm Ltd

**Type:** ARRL Convention

**Talk-In:** 146.670 - PL 114.8

**Public Contact:** Kyle Schaefer , KC9SDK

113 Falcon Crest Black Earth, WI 53515

Phone: (920) 279-4249

**Email:** [sec4wi@gmail.com](mailto:sec4wi@gmail.com)

## HAM RADIO LICENSE TESTING DATES

If you are looking to get your ham radio license or upgrade your current license, here is the info you need.  
Tests can be taken In Person or Virtually via Zoom in the comfort of your home. The choice is yours!

### Upcoming nearby In Person exams:

#### Plymouth WI 53073-2032

##### EXAM SESSION

09/17/2024

**Sponsor:** Sheboygan Cty WI VE Team

**Date:** Sep 17 2024

**Time:** 7:00 PM (No Walk-ins / Register or Call ahead)

**Contact:** Michael B. Gottsacker

(920) 565-2672

**Email:** [mgottsac@tds.net](mailto:mgottsac@tds.net)

**VEC:** [ARRL/VEC](#)

**Location:** Salem United Church of Christ (Enter from East parking lot, off Kensington Ave)

217 Salem Dr (Handicap Accessible)

Please put "VE Exam" in the email subject line

Plymouth WI 53073-2032

#### Milwaukee WI 53223-4736

##### EXAM SESSION

09/21/2024

**Sponsor:** MRAC VEC, INC.

**Date:** Sep 21 2024

**Time:** 8:30 AM (Walk-ins allowed)

**Contact:** Tom Fuszard

**Email:** [mracvec@gmail.com](mailto:mracvec@gmail.com)

**VEC:** [Milwaukee WI](#)

**Location:** Ham Radio Outlet

5710 W Good Hope Rd

Milwaukee WI 53223-4736

**Website:** <https://www.mracvec.org/>

#### Wisconsin Rapids WI 54494-6971

##### EXAM SESSION

09/21/2024

**Sponsor:** Wood County ARES/RACES/AUXCOMM

**Date:** Sep 21 2024

**Time:** 9:00 AM (Walk-ins allowed)

**Contact:** Myron J. Oestreich

(715) 571-9993

**Email:** [kb9stb@gmail.com](mailto:kb9stb@gmail.com)

**VEC:** [LAUREL VEC](#)

**Location:** United Emergency Medical Response

3530 Bohn Dr

Wisconsin Rapids WI 54494-6971

#### Waupaca WI 54981-1521

##### EXAM SESSION

09/28/2024

**Sponsor:** Waupaca County ARE'S Group

**Date:** Sep 28 2024

**Time:** 9:00 AM (Walk-ins allowed)

**Contact:** David L. Wedde

(920) 505-0184

**Email:** [davewedde12@gmail.com](mailto:davewedde12@gmail.com)

**VEC:** [ARRL/VEC](#)

**Location:** Waupaca Public Library

107 S Main St

Waupaca WI 54981-1521

#### Columbus WI 53925-8943

##### EXAM SESSION

10/05/2024

**Sponsor:** Wisconsin Furs ARC

**Date:** Oct 05 2024

**Time:** 12:00 PM (Walk-ins allowed)

**Contact:** Jason F. Christensen

(801) 940-4731

**Email:** [jasehusky@wifu.rs](mailto:jasehusky@wifu.rs)

**VEC:** [ARRL/VEC](#)

**Location:** Astico Park - Shelter 1

N3620 County Road Tt

Columbus WI 53925-8943

### UPCOMING VIRTUAL EXAMS:

Brad, KA9JDE, is a member of the AA7HW Volunteer Examiner Team under the W5YI VEC. With over 40 Volunteer Examiners on the team, we offer virtual testing via Zoom. The cost of the exam is \$14. For more info or to schedule an exam, go to [aa7hw.org](http://aa7hw.org).

Testing is done virtually via Zoom usually Monday-Thursday at 4pm and Friday at 8:30pm.

To schedule your exam session, go to: [aa7hw.org](http://aa7hw.org)

Also, feel free to contact Brad KA9JDE with any questions at [ka9jde@gmail.com](mailto:ka9jde@gmail.com).







# AA7HW<sup>VE</sup> Team

## Yes, you CAN take your License Exam Online using Zoom

from the comfort of your own home or office

Our team of Volunteer Examiners has administered nearly 2000 friendly, efficient online amateur radio license exams since May 2020

- We offer online exams most weekdays.
- We can often schedule exams at other times if our existing schedule does not meet your needs.
- New license or upgrades.
- Take multiple exams for the same low price.
- Friendly and efficient.
- You can generally have your license two days after passing your exam.
- Our Portland-based team is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization.



<https://www.aa7hw.org>

Herb Weiner, AA7HW  
herbw@wiskit.com  
(503) 771-1400

Local contact:  
Brad Gehrt, KA9JDE  
W5YI Volunteer Examiner  
ka9jde@gmail.com  
(920) 210-1620

## **RRRC Weekly Nets**

**Monday A.R.E.S. Net 7:30 PM**

**RRRC 2-Meter Repeater 146.64 MHz**

**Net Control Stations**

<b>September 9, 2024</b>	<b>Gary - KA9BAE</b>
<b>September 16, 2024</b>	<b>Jeff - KB9UNY</b>
<b>September 23, 2024</b>	<b>Peter - KD9UVX / Cameron KD9VGV</b>
<b>September 30, 2024</b>	<b>Ted - W9LUQ</b>
<b>October 7, 2024</b>	<b>Ryan - KB9OWD</b>

**Repeater Backup 147.585 MHz Simplex**

**160-Meter HF Net Wednesday 7:00 PM**

**1.908 MHz Lower Side Band  
(1.920 MHz backup frequency)**

**70-Centimeter Net RRRC Knowles  
Repeater 442.975**

**Thursdays at 7:30 PM**

**WIRES-X Room ID 81081**

**75-Meter HF Net Saturday 10:00 AM**

**7.278 MHz Lower Side Band**

## **Calendar 2024**

**SPECIAL EVENT STATION OCT 19TH**

**HOLIDAY PARTY DEC 1ST**

**MONTHLY MEETING IN-PERSON THE FIRST  
TUESDAY OF THE MONTH. ALSO  
VIA ZOOM IF YOU ARE UNABLE TO  
ATTEND IN-PERSON**



## **RRRC Repeaters**

**2-Meter Located in Juneau, WI**

**146.640 MHz Output**

**146.040 MHz Input**

**(Duplex, Standard Negative Offset)**

**123.0 Hz PL Tone**

**70-Centimeter Located in Knowles, WI**

**442.975 MHz Output**

**447.975 MHz Input**

**(Duplex, Standard Positive Offset)**

**123.0 Hz PL Tone**

**Standard FM and**

**Yaesu System Fusion (C4FM) Capable**

## **Rock River Radio Club Mailing Addresses**

**Club Dues / Bills / Club Business**

**R.R.R.C.**

**P.O. Box 26**

**Juneau, WI 53039-0026**

**Newsletter Related Items:**

**Raymond Teschke**

**617 Mohawk Cir.**

**Horicon, WI 53032**

**rkteschke@att.net**

**Website: [www.rrrc.net](http://www.rrrc.net)**

**Webmaster: Ray (Lucky) Lasanske K9LUK**

**[k9luk@sbcglobal.net](mailto:k9luk@sbcglobal.net)**



**Annual Membership Dues**  
**Rock River Radio Club of Wisconsin**  
**PO Box 26, Juneau WI 53039-0026**



Last Name: \_\_\_\_\_

First Name(s): \_\_\_\_\_

Call(s): \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

ARRL:        YES        NO

State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Description	\$ Each	Quantity	Total
RRRC 2024 Membership - Family	\$25.00		
RRRC 2024 Membership - Individual Regular	\$20.00		
RRRC 2024 Membership - Individual Associate	\$10.00		
RRRC Badge	\$10.00		
A.R.E.S. Communication Trailer Fund Contribution			
GRAND TOTAL:			

Send to:

Dave DePover  
Attn: RRRC treasurer  
W7657 Stone Rd.  
Juneau, WI 53039