



Lakeshore Repeater Association, Inc.

KR9RK.ORG / KR9RK.COM

Newsletter: December 1, 2024

120 Members strong and going on our 50th year!

Operate our special event station next Spring: contact KB9LLV



From the board

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

PARTY! PARTY! PARTY!

This may be your last chance to sign up for the LRA Christmas party. Deadline for tickets is this coming Tuesday, Dec 3 (we have to give the restaurant a head count then). Sorry, but walk-ins will probably not be accommodated.

Sign up now at KR9RK.COM LAST CHANCE! Just look at all those happy faces from last year's party.!



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. 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**. 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.

Dave, NP2I, will head our committee for organizing this year's Christmas party. Dec 8 at Tailgaters Restaurant. **DEC 3 DEADLINE FOR TICKETS**

LRA Special Event Station:

We have formed a committee to apply for a special event callsign and get on the air to commemorate our 50th anniversary as a club. KB9LLV for details.

LRA TASTE of FIELD DAY EVENT:

An expanded "Taste" this year with local stations staying on the air longer.

Last full weekend of June, 2025. K9SO and/or KB9LLV.



... to Support the LRA Activities

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, January 28 and it will be held at our **new YMCA location** in Mt. Pleasant.



LRA Member Activities:



Bernie, N9AZA, is our SKYWARN coordinator for the LRA. Summer is long gone now, but the possibility of severe weather still exists.

Supporting Bernie on our SKYWARN committee are 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

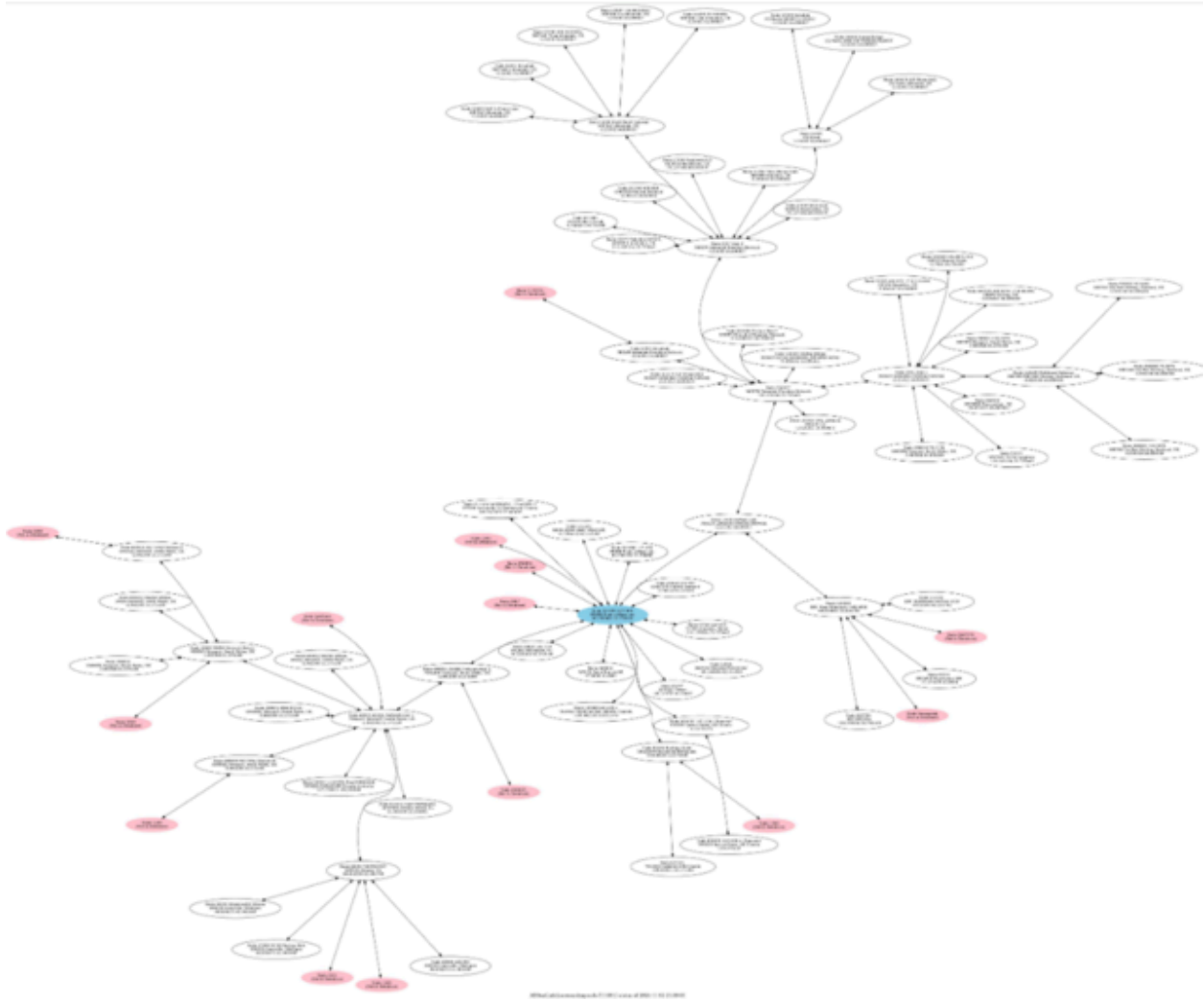


The "UN-NET" is hatching many more "Chickens" almost every day. **A new record** was set in April when K9SO, as moderator, logged in 61 participants blasting away at the old record of 54. We're rapidly approaching the 40,000 check-in mark.

Average numbers have been increasing with daily attendance of 40-50 becoming the norm.

This unusual “Un-Net” is gathering world-wide attention and without a doubt has been one of the big reasons for our club’s phenomenal success this past couple of years. Regular check-ins from across the USA and Canada are now being augmented by check-ins from Wales, Scotland, and New Zealand.

Look at this bubble chart!



Get ready for the start of Happy Hour!



“Is it ten minutes to five already?”

We don't want to lose its local SE Wisconsin feel as it has been a highly successful way new hams have introduced themselves to the locals. Many new hams have recorded the Happy Hour as their very first QSO.

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. It's strangely addictive.

This group meets daily on both the LRA 442.000 and 147.240 Allstar linked repeaters at 5:00pm sharp and lasts for about an hour. Be prepared to share your happy thoughts for the day. It is moderated regularly by a group of 11 moderators including **K9SO, K9WBT, KC9UJO, N9PYA, and KD1Z**. Lately, **Robin, WB9COW, Craig, KD9UQE, Kevin, KB9LLV, Bernie, N9AZA, Mike, K9MWG**, and even **Derrick, VE5SD** from Saskatoon have been moderating too.

Repeaters from Maine, Saskatoon, Milwaukee, Burlington, and others regularly link in to us. If you're out of radio range, log in via Allstar nodes 511680 and 511681. WB9COW/R has Echolink connections too.

The beautiful FAT SQUIRREL certificate, courtesy of **Dave, NP2I**, is awarded for 100 HH check-ins and there are 90 of them decorating hamshack walls as of today. Four more recipients this month. Millennial awards for over 1000 check-ins have been awarded to 6 participants already with two more joining the Millennial club soon.

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

LRA is on FACEBOOK!

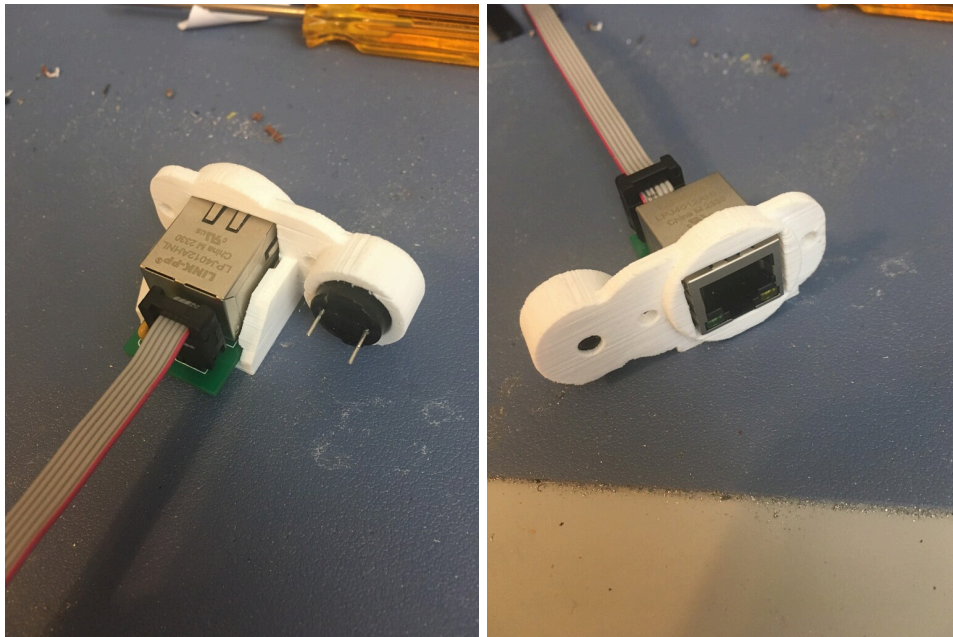
It hasn’t been very active, but we’re trying to change that.

Search Facebook for “Lakeshore Repeater Association” and post for all your friends.



Member Activities

Ever try to drill a square hole for your projects? Jeff, KC9JOB came up with this round hole adapter for an Ethernet jack. Simply use a step drill to make a round hole for mounting. It mounts a tiny sidetone speaker too:



From **Bill, KD1Z**:

<https://youtu.be/GYDck-Q1Uck?si=H2aePI1sPgt-U4nT>

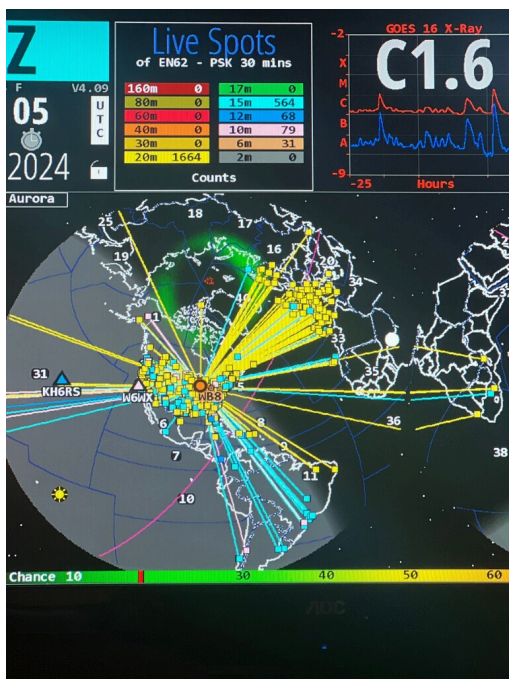
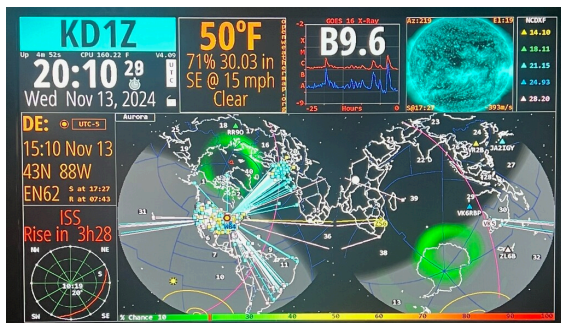
This guy does a great job explaining setup and new features of the update version. New features for Ham Clock, are continuing added to the software. And doing updates is very easy. There is a window version of Ham Clock

I run Ham Clock on a single board computer about the size of a bar coaster and under an inch thick, called an "Inovato Quadra". Approx \$50 for hardware and software, from: Inovato.com

I highly recommend also getting the small wireless keyboard with it.

I have it also set to show the ISS, lower left hand corner. Note: many other ham satellites and sky objects are available to monitor. The main map, I have set to Aurora, lately. Use this on the largest TV screen that you have available. Great to see propagation in almost real time with live spots too!

Bill



But **Brad, N9BJB** posted this warning about the site closing:

“ I just saw this video this morning and thought I'd pass the info along. It appears that the servers will continue to remain online and the units will function as they are now. I'm still looking for information on future updates, functionality, etc. If anyone has been on the fence now would be a great time to support Michael and his family.”

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=mvUkdhXFErY>

<https://inovato.com>

My new Flex-8600 finally arrived and is installed at Q-SO Qorners now. I moved my 6600 to North Carolina:



The MORCONI:

Fred, K9SO: I've always been challenged remoting CW paddle information over the Internet. Packet Jitter and latency issues destroy the timing of high speed paddle CW. While keyboard CW solutions exist, legacy CW operators like me miss the "reality" of paddle CW interfaces.

I've always thought that time stamping the key closures and openings then re-assembling them at the distant end in the correct format was the answer.

Now, someone (Max, N5NHJ) has done just that. He calls the system MORCONI [MORCONI](#) and I've now installed it in North Carolina. I've written my own code with some modest success, but I'm trying out the MORCONI solution first. The program, written in C, runs on a powerful Teensy 4.1 micro and links into my FlexRadio system at the far end. I managed to build it into the Winkeyer USB case. Here's an implementation of the MORCONI system by G4IRN in a separate box:

Here's a picture of the "Morconi-ized Winkeyer" with the added Ethernet jack:



Of course, **Jeff, KC9JOB**, has been busy redesigning the whole thing. Stay tuned for his creation.



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](#)].

In order of appearance

This week we sent an ICS213 General Message from Templates.

In order of appearance:

K9SO, reporting that the NC Fat Squirrel supply is replenished.

KC9HYY, HF

K9WNG, Vara HF

K0WET, Vara FM

W9AFB, looks like the snow got us, Scott. :)

KD9WAN, telnet

W0JT, thank you, Chris.

KE9AST, WoAD

W9ABE, Vara FM, good job!!

KD9SSY, Telnet

KD1Z, Light snow, 32dF @23:26 Local time.

N9UUO, Telnet

K9WBT, (NCS)

Six meter action:

Even though almost all the 6m action is on FT-8 these days, I was able to add 8 countries to my worked list in a single day last week. Displaying an incredible knowledge of the band, **Art, W9GU**, told me to point my antenna towards Alaska one afternoon and just wait. Sure enough, during a very, very, short band opening, I worked 3 Alaskan stations.

The "Magic Band" is earning its title these days.

A personal story: How Jeff, KC9JOB, became a close friend

Turn back the clock to 2009. I had already been remote operating for 15 years and had developed a control card that eliminated the need for a computer at the remote radio site. A pretty big deal in the days of Windows 7. This was years before there were any commercial products like RemoteRig available.

The system worked so well, I decided to sell them. Thus, Glentek was born. My cards, which I called RTE adapters (Radio to Ethernet) were an immediate sensation, available for Icom, Yaesu, and Kenwood radios. QST magazine even did a product review on them in the February 2010 issue.

I even hired a retired professional TV announcer to do an early YouTube video presentation for me. I recently ran across that old video again. If you have plenty of time, you may enjoy this "ancient history" of radio remote control, still on YouTube:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=xsaJkbpOOPw&t=303s>

I later added the ATA (audio telephone adapter) card that piggybacked onto the RTE. A video on that may be found here:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=1j9BbBPV0ls>



A bit later, I hired an acquaintance, a mechanical engineer at Motorola, (Jeff, KC9JOB ... not a Ham at the time) to build cases for me. He did a beautiful job. A smoked plastic end panel showed flashing LEDs on the inside. An engraved company logo that was edge lit. Really cool. Those were called RTE/FXO's. It was the start of a long and beautiful friendship.

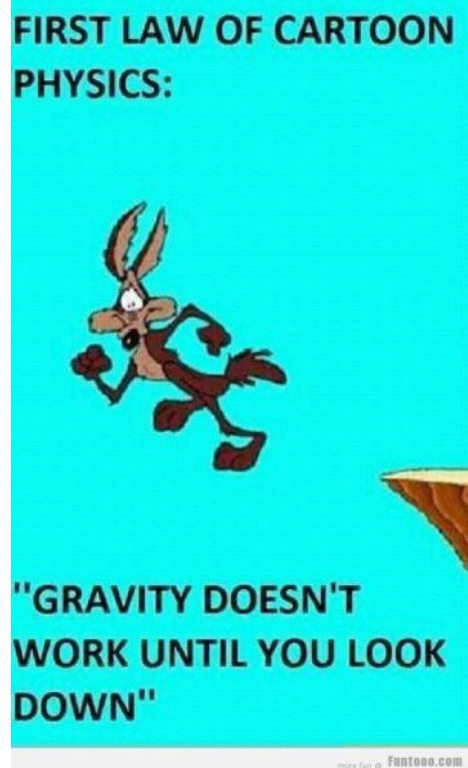
Fred, K9SO

Do you have a friend story to share? Send me the information for the next newsletter.



"More decisive? How can I be more decisive?
- I live by the uncertainty principle!"

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Contesting/Operating Corner



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

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

ARLX007 25th Annual SKYWARN Recognition Day December 7, 2024

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SKYWARN Recognition Day is December 7, 2024. The annual event is celebrating its 25th anniversary. SRD was established in 1999 by the National Weather Service and ARRL to commemorate the contributions of SKYWARN volunteers. Using amateur radio and other means of communication, SKYWARN spotters provide real time ground truth to NWS offices. The ham-volunteers can also provide vital communications between NWS and local emergency management officials when other means go down.

In a video posted to the SRD web page, National Weather Service Director Ken Graham, WX4KEG, said the information ham radio operators and other SKYWARN volunteers provide is critical. "I, along with the entire National Weather Service, want to acknowledge and thank you for your invaluable service to the communities we serve."

There will be a SRD special event from 0000 - 2359 UTC on the day. The objective is for all amateur stations to exchange QSO information with as many Amateur Radio SKYWARN Spotters and National Weather Service Stations as possible on the 80, 40, 20, 15, 10, 6, 2-meter and 70-centimeter bands. ARRL will be on the air during the event from the ARRL Radio Laboratory station, W1HQ, using the call sign WX1AW.

For those of you familiar with the game WORDLE, I bring you **MORSLE**:



Like the game WORDLE, once a day, they have a 5 letter word. Initially sent at 40wpm which is clearly too fast for most. But you have 5 guesses at the word. After 5 guesses, it slows down by 5 wpm and you get another 5 guesses. It keeps going like that until it gets slow enough for you to copy. It keeps a daily score.

But there are also practice modes where you can set a fixed speed and get 5 letter words sent to you. Even a call sign practice mode instead of 5 letter words.

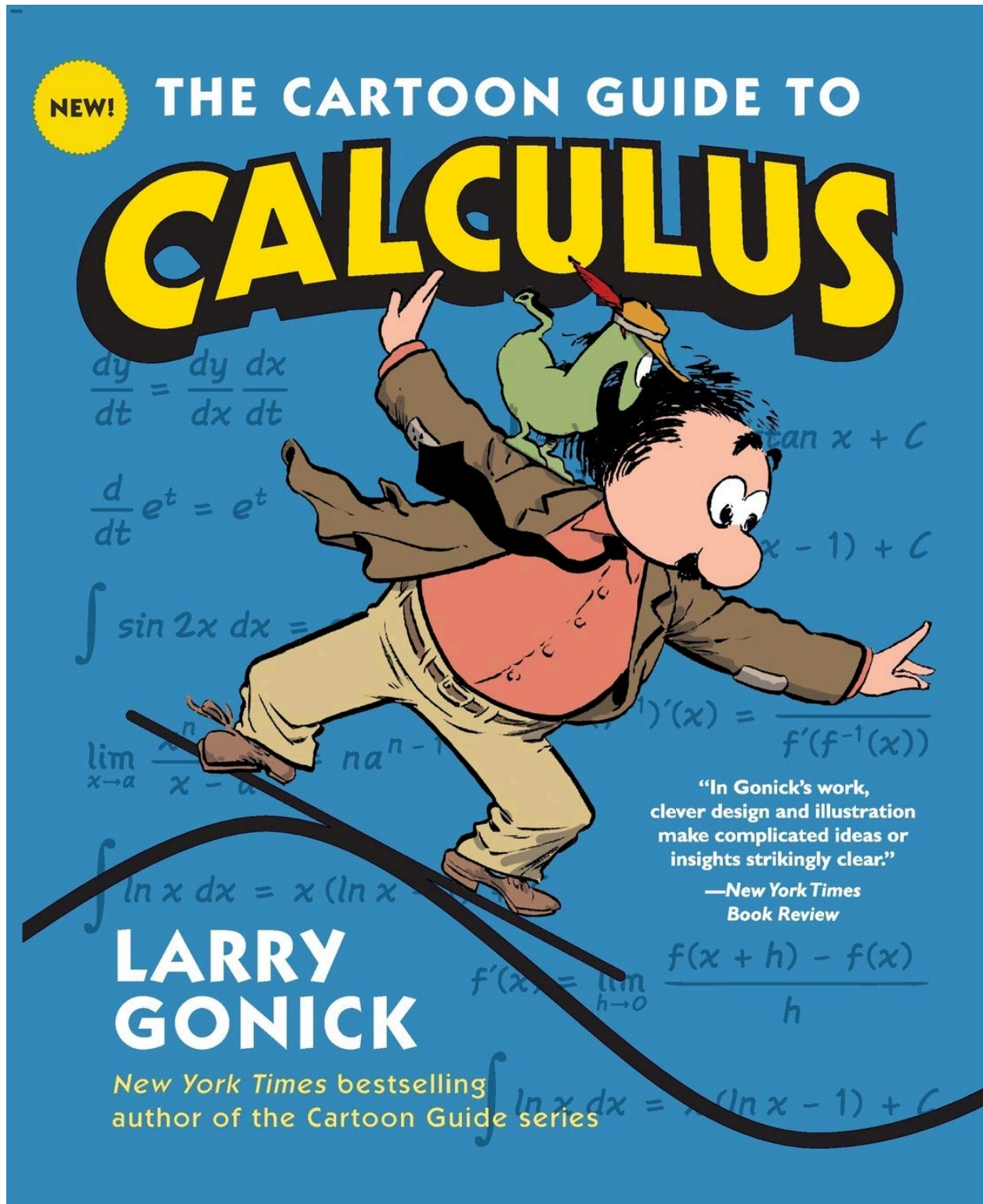
Practicing code reception at speeds faster than you can comfortably copy will train your brain to copy Morse like the spoken language it is.

ARRL Publications (all 4 come with membership):

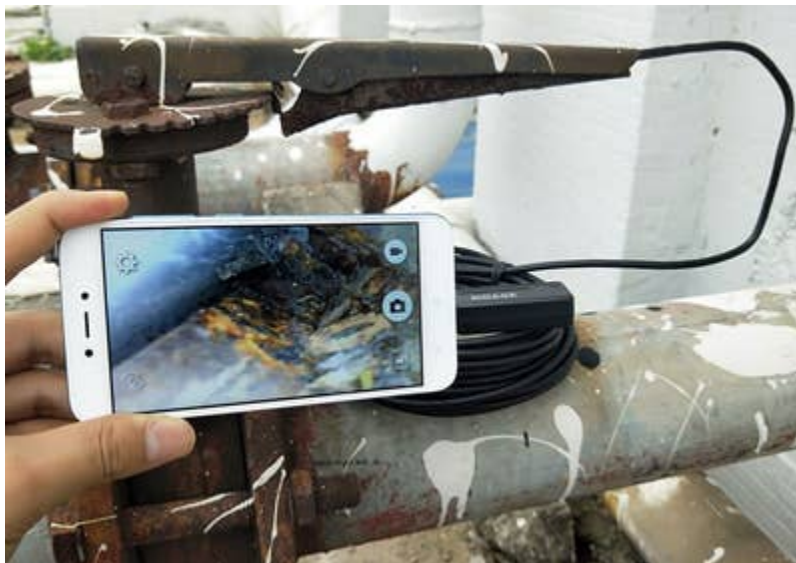


Join the ARRL today! [Join here now!](#)

What you need (?) Department:



A [wireless endoscope gadget](#) you'll absolutely want in your toolbox if you're a homeowner — it has a teeny tiny camera on the end you can send behind walls or into drains to see what's going on before calling in a professional.



On Amazon now!

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.

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

Next month, send me some pictures of the "Go Box" you created.

73, Fred, K9SO

VP, Lakeshore Repeater Association, Inc.

VP@kr9rk.com

APPENDIX I, upcoming events:

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

<https://www.hamcation.com/>

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.

 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.

[X 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)



N9OIG: Yeasu 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)

