



January - 2003

Officers

Operating the 146.91- repeater under the callsign K9IZV. For best access use 127.3 PL.	President Vice Pres Secretary Treasurer Activities Manager	Napoleon Hardy Mike Borchardt Tom Schulte Gary Bargholz Janet Wojciechowski	NOXXL N9NPB KB9RLB N9UUR KB9ZAG	262 497-0725 262 367-3953 414 529-2512 414 355-6922 262 930-7421
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Meeting Notice...

January 18 (Sat) 6:30pm -- The annual business meeting and election of officers at the Oak Creek location. Door open at 6:00pm to for the payment of dues.

2003 Club Calendar...

- March ?** (Severe Weather Training)
- May 28 (Wed)** Meeting 7:00 Mayfair Mall (Presentation)
- June 28th & 29th** Field Day
- July 23 (Wed)** Meeting 7:00 Mayfair mall (Field Day Critic and possible Presentation)
- September 13 Sat** Meeting 7:00 Wauwatosa Savings Bank (Presentation)
- Oct 15th** Wed 7:00 Mayfair mall (Swap Fest Planning)
- Nov 19th** Wed 7:00 Mayfair (Swap Fest critic)
- Dec ?** Holiday Party

Board Meetings: Call a board member for date, time, and location of the meeting.

Oak Creek Location

Wauwatosa Savings (Basement)
6560 S. 27th St, Oak Creek, WI

Mayfair Location

Mayfair Mall Location (Room G-110, See Below), 2500 N. Mayfair Rd, Wauwatosa, WI. Park on the east side of the mall, under the second floor new movie theater. Enter the mall under the theater. About fifty feet inside, on the right, look up to see the sign GARDEN SUITES EAST. Go thru the door below the sign. Take the elevator or stairs to the level below. Turn left and go down the long hall. At the end of the hall find room G-110.

Notes from the President...

Well 2002 has come to a close and I believe it was a very successful year for the Club. We have many new members and continue to do new and exciting things. As I look back on the year, we had a few rough spots, but any organization the size of ours will have that. With 2003 here, our focus as a club should continue to be public service. Public service means more than just helping organizations with our communications skills. If we use the same skills to help each other, we can do something just as important. The year for me personally was difficult, as a result of being unemployed. I did not speak of it early on because I believed it would be embarrassing. After getting over my ego and looking around, I realized I was not the only one. Well, after mentioning my situation on the air, the support was overwhelming. We as a group of 280 plus members all know many other people. Our network of associates and friends cover many professions and trades. Let's make a commitment to help where we can. I am not suggesting we begin advertising jobs on the repeater, but support others who may be looking for employment. If you know of a position opening somewhere tell a "Ham". Many professional and fraternal organizations do the same thing. The unemployment rate in the state is climbing everyday. We can all help each other to reduce this number among our friends. If you are unemployed, networking is the key to finding a job. Look at the occupations of the people you talk to everyday. The more people you tell, the better your chances. I look forward to 2003 and hope we can all help in taking public service to another level. That level is a personal level.

See you on the Radio!
Napoleon N0XXL

Nominating Committee Report

The following club members have accepted nomination for the following offices:

President: (I)Napoleon Hardy, N0XXL; Matt Moog, KC9COY.

Vice President: Bob Albert, AB9FB; Jason Benjamin, KC9WTH; Don Broeske, KB9VMA; Dean Hoover, KB7QDI; Kate Kedney, KA9MWT; John Kochanski, KB9SXH; Matt Moog, KC9COY; Janet Wojciechowski, KB9ZAG.

Secretary: Matt Moog, KC9COY; Maureen Zentner, KB9VLJ.

Treasurer: Randy Becker, KB9ZTB; Jason Benjamin, KC9WTH; Matt Moog, KC9COY; Maureen Zentner, KB9VLJ.

Activities Manager: (I)Janet Wojciechowski, KB9ZAG; John Kochanski, KB9SXH; Matt Moog, KC9COY; Rich Peters; KB9KYS.

Order of appearance is (I) incumbent (if any) followed by last name sort.

Respectfully submitted:

Warren Schall, K9IZV:Chair

Note: Additional nominations can be made from the floor on Election Night.

Thanks to the nominating committee for a job well done, trying to contact all our club members by phone or E-mail: Jeananne Bargholz, N9VSV; Pat Borchardt, KB9ZOS; Mary Brookins, KC9AST; Lloyd Gorsiski, WB9RGO; Gary Grant, N9MGJ; Misty Jones, KC9BDC; Roger Jones, W2ZDB; Kate Kedney, KA9MWT; Dean Pearson, KB9RCB; Rich Peters, KB9KYS; Warren Schall, K9IZV; Jerry Schroeder, KB9WNT; Leroy Skalstad, WD9HOT; Maureen Zentner, KB9VLJ.

A reminder that your 2003 dues (\$20) must be paid to vote or hold office. If you don't mail your dues in by Jan 10, please bring it to the meeting.

Lastly, advice to the candidates: your air-time activity from now until the election meeting may affect your chances, and if you don't show up at the meeting, you probably won't be elected. Good Luck!

Committees

Activities Janet KB9ZAG	Public Service Kate KA9MWT
Awards Bob AB9FB	Station Trustee Warren Schall K9IZV
Computer Net Gary N9UUR	Swapfest Gary N9UUR
Control Operators Gary N9UUR	Swap Net Lloyd WB9RGO
Fun Net Warren K9IZV	Technical Mike Borchardt N9NPB
Historian. Warren K9IZV	Weather Skip WD9HAS
Membership Coord Kate KA9MWT	Co-Webmaster Gary N9UUR
Net Announcements Coord Deb KB9ISE	Co-Webmaster Richard K9RWE
Newsletter Heidi N9TUY & Bob AA9JW	

From the Vice President

OK, it's the last newsletter of the year. This is usually when I ramble on about things just cause it's what pops in to my mind as I'm typing. The MRC is about 300 strong, and this isn't something that just happens. There are many contributing factors that attract ham operators to this Club. However I'm not going to list them out, just think of why you became a member. I am going to tell you why I joined. After I got my license, the repeater with the most traffic caught my attention. I got to know many operators and enjoyed their company on the air and in person. I found most of them to be friendly and informative, to help me be a better operator. Shortly after joining, I got involved with the technical part of the Club and enjoyed working under Norm KB9QL and then Brad N9KXA when they were Tech Directors. Seven years ago, I got the chance to wear that hat and have worn it ever since. Five years ago, I won a seat on the Board as VP and have been on the Board up to now. Why did I do this? CHALLENGE! I like a good challenge. I saw potential for this Club to grow and get stronger. I envisioned a repeater second to none. The potential was there and all it needed was nurturing and the will of the members to achieve that goal. And by gosh, I think we've done it. We gave Warren a repeater to have fun on. We gave Kate a repeater to have public information on and we gave Gary and Lloyd a machine to do their nets on and the number one thing is..... we have a reliable repeater to serve the Community with general and emergency needs - in accordance with the by-laws. Read the preamble. We are a REPEATER club. It's the preamble that's the adhesive, the glue that binds us all together for a purpose. Seven years ago this repeater was in desperate need of reconstruction. Not to discredit Norm or Brad for they did an excellent job, and I commend them for keeping what they were given going. But the truth of the matter was we needed money, knowledge, and dedication to turn things around, and you, the members, came through. The Tech Committee asked for money, you gave us money. They asked for time, patience, trust and you gave it to use. This is what a club is all about. Working together to achieve a common goal. Congratulations. Let's not lose sight of our accomplishments and the things it takes to keep us where we are. The radios we started using seven years ago are no longer manufactured. We need to look ahead for replacement gear as these wear out. We need to keep up maintenance to assure having a reliable machine. And we need the trust of the Board and the support of the Membership to continue these efforts.

As I have stated, I've been a Board Member for five years, three as President. And as President, I have never tried to change what

we are, but rather make better of what the bylaws say we should be. I quote "conduct Club programs and activities so as to enhance the value of it's communications system to the Civil Authorities and citizens". Look back in your newsletters when I've encouraged every one many times to be a Net Control. Learn to be proficient at handling traffic. Practice being a better communicator. These are things that enhance our communication system. We need informative programs. Do a little more studying and upgrade your license. As a Board Member, I have never taken my responsibilities lightly. I have been as open, honest and fair as anyone could be. I have worked with excellent Board Members, Committee Members, and Net Controls. Every aspect of building the repeater, changing the way we conduct business, trying different ideas with the Swapfest and the image we present has been met with willingness and support of the members. Thank you for your support in my visions and dreams. Thank you for trusting me with building and maintaining in upwards of \$30,000.00 of repeater equipment. And thank you for giving me the chance to serve you.

I have made the decision not to run for a Board position, but I plan to remain involved with the Club and, if asked, I will accept the Tech Director position again.

Mike N9NPB

2c from the Treasurer...

Well, this should prove interesting. As I start to write this, I'm as curious about what will follow as you are, there are so many things I could say.

First off, as this is my last article... I have been accused from time to time by some of writing articles that resemble a "love fest", that I pat people on the back too much, and propose things that aren't the way "we" do it. Well, with the time you save not reading THIS article... get a life. What I have at least tried to do is to take a stand, or state a position, go out on a limb. It is most times easier to "get a reaction" from people, than just ask for input... which never seems to come. A good Board member should be responsive to the Membership, but should provide some leadership as well.

As they go, this year was pretty smooth. We spent under the overall 2002 Budget, and brought in over the projected income for the year. Membership dues were only 4 members short of our projection. This is the most important gauge of the financial status, and overall indicator of the current state and stability of the Club. We seem to be holding stable at about the same mark over the last 3 years, and doing well.

We continue to receive general donations from the Membership beyond the dues payments, most notably to the Capital

Improvement Fund. This fund was created in May of 1998 with a letter to the Membership asking for additional funds, setting forth a plan to rebuild the repeater system, and setting a campaign goal of \$5,000.00. Since then, we have spent about \$3000.00 in purchases for the machine, and with this years additions, we now have over \$5000.00 in the account again! This is a wonderful testimony to the commitment of the Membership to this Club, and their faith in the Technical Committee to do a good and responsible job with their money. The Club owes thanks to the original members of the "Capitol Improvement Fund Committee" KB9NYP, N9VSV, N9NPB and N9UUR.

This year's Swapfest was contained and profitable. Vendor and admission numbers were down from last year; however given careful planning and cost containment, we actually made a respectable profit. What really puts us over the top is our wonderful Kitchen Crew. Given the high priority of this event with the Membership, "Even if we lose money on it... It's an important social gathering for the HAM community", I believe the MRC should continue this event for 2003. Again my thanks to the many who showed up at 4:30AM to run the fest. I really feel that YOU are ones who get stuff done around here.

As many of you know, I have made the decision to not run for Treasurer again for 2003. Why? As Warren says, "my time constant has expired", that's it. I believe the MRC is in a VERY GOOD place right now. The Membership is stable, and we have enough funds to cover any major emergency or catastrophic system failure that mother nature may throw at us. My goal and focus have always been the support and operation of the repeater system itself. As the Club has been stable for a number of years, it is now branching out in other areas. We have a Field Day operation now two years old, various members and directors are spending time on other things that involve, or serve to enhance Amateur Radio with the local HAM community and the general public. I have no problems with this, and have enjoyed seeing it happen. I personally, however, wish to stay within the "technical" side of the MRC, and have no further time to spend on extra, or "social" endeavors. I believe also that Milwaukee ARES is best equipped, and more importantly, responsible for HAM Public Service and government contacts in our area. The MRC should not be trying to re-create the wheel. Our by-laws clearly state that the MRC exists to support ARES; we need to be careful in this area, and not inadvertently cause any problems or animosity.

So, to be clear, I'm not leaving. I plan to continue to serve the MRC, and have time to be even more involved with the Technical Committee, the Control Operators, and get back to building some projects to expand my Satellite and high frequency work. More time

to do the things I consider "fun". I am also very willing to "Elmer" the next treasurer and or Swapfest chairman, IF requested. There are many qualified people out there, who are willing to take a turn at serving our Club, but there are only 5 Board positions. It's time to give someone else a chance. So, if you're thinking of running for Treasurer in the Jan. Election, please feel free to give me a call if you want to know what the job is all about. It's all computerized these days, so you better have a good Windows machine!

I would also like to express my thanks, and surprise, in being presented the 2002 Outstanding Service to the Club Award at the Holiday Party in December. I had completely forgotten that the Award rules were changed allowing Board Officers to become eligible. Quite a surprise, and honor. Those who were there, will note the rare "speechless" moment from N9UUR, I'm so used to thanking and encouraging others, guess I have to work on accepting praise.

I would like to express my thanks to the Membership, the Finance Committee and the many Board of Directors Members I have served with over the last few years, and for the relative autonomy, and trust all have given me as Treasurer and Swapfest Chair. I hold this trust sacred. It has enabled me to make decisions and payments almost instantly, and allowed me to create accounts and procedures to handle the financial matters of the MRC in ways that make the most sense, and are the most efficient for me in fulfilling the needs of the MRC.

So Thanks! And 73'
Gary Bargholz, N9UUR
MRC Treasurer 1998 - 2002

Cross Band Repeater Operation

Many users of repeaters sometimes find themselves in a situation that prevents them from accessing the Repeater with an HT, such as from within a building, or when in a fringe area or great distance from the nearest receiver site. Some people use a Dual Band Mobile rig in their cars to allow them to transmit on UHF from their HT into the car rig that (if capable) retransmits their signal on VHF at a much higher power to allow access to the distant repeater. This is a creative and good practice IF one has the proper knowledge, skill, and equipment. There can be problems however. The Board and Membership of the MRC requests that no "Cross Bander" operation into our Repeater be left unattended. Learn about them first, use them wisely, and PLEASE shut them down when not in use.

Gary Bargholz, N9UUR
Head Control Operator, MRC

CROSS BAND REPEATER FREQ'S

The Wisconsin Association of Repeaters has established frequencies for ad-hoc cross band repeater operation from 446.4125 to 446.4825 MHz. These frequencies may be used without fear of causing problems to established, but unpublished, coordinated links. Their intended use is for the occasional user, such as setting up at a swapfest, or some gathering where such communication would be useful. It is not intended for any long term operation, and is subject to any other operations of the same nature.

Cross Banding Frequencies on UHF:
446.4125 446.4250 446.4375 446.450
446.4625 446.475 446.4875

Gary Bargholz, N9UUR Chairman,
Wisconsin Association of Repeaters

It's Renewal Time!

The following list of MRC members are FULLY PAID UP FOR 2003.

If you don't find your call here on this list, Please send in your dues for 2003!

WB9AIS, KC9AVZ, KC9BDC, KA9BFN, KC9CEN, KC9CLM, KC9COY, N9DFE, WD9DNM, K9DOE, N9DWG, K9ETX, W9FDA, KB9FQJ, WB9FUY, K5GBW, K9GNJ, KD9HD, WD9HRE, WD9IES, KB9KYS, N9LBR, KA9LDT, N9LSX, N9LZQ, KA9MWT, KB9NCY, KB9PQZ, KB7QDI, N9QIT, N9QOU, WB9RGO, KB9SXF, KB9UDL, KB9UKD, N9UUR, N9VBI, AA9VC, KB9VMA, KA6VNN, N9VSV, KA9WBR, N9WJV, KB9WNS, KB9WNT, WW9WT, N9WVC, KF9XL, W2ZDB, W9ZOL, KB9ZOS, KB9ZOT
(List Compiled Dec. 28, 2002, N9UUR)

Thank You - Standard Announcement Readers

Please join me in thanking the people who read the standard announcements each week on the Public Service Net. As a matter of fact, I am encouraging you to actually thank them. If you hear any of the readers on the air or see them in person, Thank Them!!!!. This would mean a lot. They are a great group of volunteers. They take time each week to try and keep us informed. The public service announcement readers this year were Tom AB9EK, Eric KB9RCA, and Don N9ZXS.

I would like to say a special thanks to Eric KB9RCA, a busy college student who has managed to find the time to continue on the team. Eric has been reading the announcements for several years. Thank you, Eric, and Good Luck.

Thank you all. Deb KB9ISE

FM Simplex Contest

This contest, the afternoon of February 9, 2003, is sponsored by The Milwaukee Radio Amateurs' Club - which has been continuously meeting for more than 85 years. The purpose of this contest is to encourage amateurs to learn the basics of contesting and to expand their scope of their V-UHF operating techniques beyond that needed for repeater operation.

1. This event is a sprint, lasting 2 hours, and limited to FM simplex on the 2 meter, 70 centimeter, 6 meter and 1.25 meter amateur bands.

2. Contest frequencies: In order to generate maximum activity all stations would be on the same band at the same specific time. Each band is assigned a 30-minute segment during which contacts can be made on the listed frequencies that correspond to recommendations in the Wisconsin Association of Repeaters band plan.

For more information see the MRAC web page at: <http://www.qsl.net/mrac/FMContest.html> Or you can contact Sherm at KB9Q@arrl.net

Tom AB9EK
MRC Secretary

View From the Kitchen

Once again the MRC ran the kitchen at the Annual Swapfest at a profit. Pat KB9ZOS and Sue played a major role in the success of the kitchen operation, being our chefs and purchasing agents. We also had Emily and Ben returning to help in the kitchen. A new addition to the kitchen staff was Gary, N9MGJ. Many thanks and a round of applause to the kitchen staff. Thanks also to Al N9RXD, Margie KB9RCG, Mike KB9PHA and Pat KB9ZOS who loaned us Nesco roasters and coffee pots.

Breakfast and lunch were both a hit and we were sold out of everything, which was one of our goals. Thanks to everyone for making the Swapfest and Kitchen a success.

Milt N9WSZ

MRC Meeting Minutes October 19, 2002...

See Napoleon N0XXL for the minutes from this meeting.

A Note From The Awards Committee Chairman, Bob AB9FB

A great time was had by all at this year's MRC Christmas party. In addition, a new feature was added to the party this year. The 2002 MRC Awards were presented at the Christmas party instead of the Election Meeting in January. I would like to inform everyone of who received awards this year.

Before I do that though, I want to thank everyone, who sent in nominations. Your help was greatly appreciated. Also, I would like to thank the members of the Awards Committee for 2002. They were, Steve KC9AYN, Brad N9KXA, Dean KB7QDI, and Eileen KB9ZHV. Thanks to all.

The 2002 MRC Outstanding Service Award was presented to Gary N9UUR for the great service he provided to the MRC. The 2002 MRC Community Service Award was presented to Napoleon N0XXL for the many community service activities he organized and/or participated in. The 2002 MRC "The Friendly One" award was presented to Mark KB9VJQ for his always "Friendly" amateur radio practices. All of these recipients received a certificate along with a shirt monogrammed with the MRC logo along with their name, call sign, and award received. Congratulations to all.

The Awards Committee wanted to recognize the 91 Quilting Group for their outstanding work on the 91 quilt. We couldn't figure out what to present to such a large group. In jumped Jeananne N9VSV to the rescue. She had already planned on presenting the 91 Quilting Group with a memento of their hard work. She designed a thimble that was absolutely perfect. She provided everyone in the quilting group with a hand designed thimble in a very nice draw string bag. Thanks Jeananne, that was very much appreciated. Members of the Quilting Group include John KC4AME, Mary KC9AST, Chuck KB9OUC, Heather KB9VCW, Alex KB9WYX, Christina (Napoleon's daughter), Napoleon N0XXL, Chelsea (Misty and Roger's daughter), Misty KC9BDC, Patti KC9AFX, Chris (KB9VMA's wife), Sara Miller and Heather and Jamie Mitchell (all Friends of Janet KB9ZAG's daughter), Vince KB9ZOT, Ashley (Janet's daughter), Janet KB9ZAG, Mark KB9VJQ, and Maureen KB9VLJ. Congratulations to all.

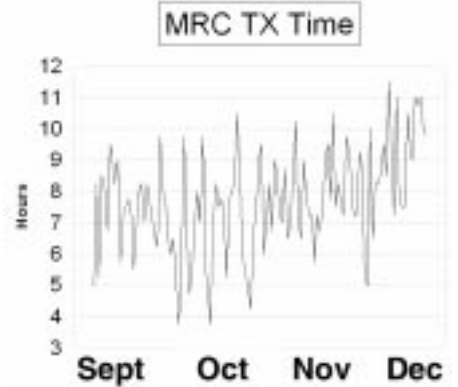
An award was also presented to John KC4AME and Mark KB9VJQ for their "Creative Use Of Amateur Radio" involving Amateur Television (ATV). The Awards Committee felt their participation at Field Day with a radio controlled airplane and amateur television deserved recognition. Congratulation to John and Mark.

Again, thank you, and congratulations to everyone. Thank you for allowing me to act as Awards Committee Chairman for 2002.

Also, in case you didn't hear, Dean KB7QDI was the lucky winner of the 91 quilt.

Bob AB9FB
Awards Committee Chairman

So, just how busy is the Milwaukee 91?



One of the offshoots from the work of the Control Op's, has been some data logging. From this data, some interesting numbers appear. Here is a chart of the hours per day that the Mainsite Transmitter was active from 9/1 through 12/21 2002. The MRC Repeater averaged 7 Hours of use a day in September, 7.25 Hours a day in October, 8 Hours a day in November, and so far, December is averaging 9.25 Hours per day (Dec. 1 through the 21st). There were 31 days over 9 Hours, our highest peak was an 11.5 Hour day on Saturday Dec. 7th. Think those "Tech" guys know what their doing?

N9UUR

The Milwaukee Repeater Club Inc. ; P.O. Box 2123, Milwaukee, WI 53201

Membership / Renewal Application
Expiration

Call sign _____ Name _____ Date _____
Name used on air _____ Class of License _____
Telephone (home) _____ (work optional) _____
Street _____
City _____ State _____ Zip _____
Birth date (optional) _____ ARRL Member? yes no
E-mail: _____
Dues (New & Renewal): \$ 20.00
Capital Improvement Fund: \$ _____

Amount enclosed: \$ _____

I hereby agree to abide by the Constitution, By-laws and rules of the Milwaukee Repeater Club.

Signed: _____

The MRC membership will vote on your admission to the Club at the next meeting after your application is received. PLEASE NOTE! If there is ANY of your personal information that you DO NOT wish to be published into the Club Roster, note this on this form. Also, list the names, calls and other pertinent information on any family members living at the same address who are Hams and desire to become MRC members. Thank You!