



March 2010

Operating the 146.91- repeater under the callsign W19MRC.

For best access use 127.3 PL.
Mailing address: PO Box 2123
Milwaukee, WI 53201

<http://www.mrc91.org/>

MRC News

President
Vice Pres
Secretary
Treasurer
Activts Mgr

Bill Spellman
Ken Jaeger
Vince Morano
James J. Langer
Valerie Hotzfeld

WQ9A
KC9MXZ
KB9ZOT
KC9NSU
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The 2010 MRC Board of Directors, Activts Mgr Valerie Hotzfeld KC9KIQ, Secretary Vince Morano KB9ZOT, President Bill Spellman WQ9A, Treasurer James J Langer KC9NSU, Vice Pres Ken Jaeger KC9MXZ

Meeting Notice

March 27th (Sat) 6-10PM
Storm Spotter Training
and Meeting at the
Humboldt Park Pavilion
3000 S Howell in
Milwaukee (See map on
page 4)

2010 Club Calendar

April 8 (Thur) - Gordon
West
April 9th & 10th - AES
Superfest
May 8 (Sat) - MRC
vs. MAARS Bowling
tournament
May 19 (Wed) Meeting
June 26th & 27th - Field
Day
July 21(Wed) Meeting
July 31(Sat) MRC Picnic

From the Prez

Hello again, and I'll bet everyone is looking forward to some warmer weather and we can get those gardens in and those antennas repaired and new ones put up. My big deal is a new Mosley 2 meter yagi. It's here but not up and won't be until the weather gets better. Also, when the weather warms we need to get some work done on our repeater system and we are anxious to get everything running at a 100%. The new date for the bowling should be May 8th instead of May 1st. It is being changed because of a conflicting ham fest date. For those of you who don't know, the 5.130 has challenged the .910 and if you are interested contact Val or myself for details. More to come. As always there are a number of events coming up this summer and fall so make yourself aware of them so you can adjust your busy summer schedule to be able to attend them. The next thing in line is our club meeting March 27 at 6:00 pm followed by a weather training program at 7:00pm. If you can attend you should walk out knowing a great deal about how severe weather is reported. This will be my first time and am looking forward to seeing you there. 73s wq9a Bill Spellman



WQ9A Bill

Committees

Awards

Al KC9IJJ

Computer Net

Gregg W9AWX

Control Operators

Gary N9UUR

Emer Operations &

Training

Gary N9MGJ

Fun Net

Warren K9IZV

Historian

Warren K9IZV

Librarian

Gary N9MGJ

Membership Coord

Dean KB7QDI

Net Announcements

Coordinator

Milan N9IDX

Newsletter

Heidi N9TUY &
Bob AA9JW

Public Service

Kate KA9MWT

Swapfest

Club Board

Swap Net

Leroy WD9HOT

Technical

Ken KC9MXZ
Mike K9MDJ

Weather

Skip WD9HAS

Webmaster

Gary N9UUR

Webmaster (Assistant)

Donovan KC9FGJ



MRC is now on Facebook!

From the Vice President

First I would like to thank everyone that attended the January meeting for electing me your Vice President for 2010.

The board had our first meeting and much progress has been made on arranging dates, sites, and plans for most 2010 Club activities. I think you will be happy with the events that are planned. I will leave the details to Valerie and Bill and hope that you will be as excited as I am.

We continue to have intermittent periods of low audio on the repeater. It appears to be related to damp weather and looks like a problem with the main site receiver or voter. The problem has been eliminated several times by turning off the main site receiver, with proper operation returning as the weather improves. We have some ideas on the cause and will continue to work the problem.

Several weeks ago I was contacted by one of our members about a concern he has. He has suggested that the 91 Repeater Club should support efforts to require a person to have a Ham radio license in order purchase radios. The hope is, it would reduce some of the jamming that is occurring.

He thought we could put some pressure on the retailers to only sell radios to Ham license holders. While it would not solve all of the problems and it may help. I am not sure how the dealers would react to this without some kind of law to back them up. I did tell Him I would mention it to the membership and see what people thought. If you have a opinion on this please let me know.

I hope to see you all at the March 27 membership/ weather spotter meeting.

KC9MXZ, Ken

From the Activities Manager

I cannot believe it's been over a month since taking on this position. Thank you to all that voted for me, I will try to live up to your expectations. We have been very busy working on lining up some exciting meetings and activities for the club.

Our next meeting's a big one. It's the storm spotter training and meeting. Please mark your calendars for Saturday March 27th 6-10pm at the Humboldt Park Pavilion 3000 S Howell in Milwaukee.

I also booked Gordon West to speak to our club on April 8th; the Thursday night before Superfest. You don't want to miss Gordo!!! It will be at Petra Restaurant located on Hwy 100 & Mitchell (on the West side of the street). Gordo will do a ham radio gadget show and tell. Rather than limit their varied menu, we decided to stagger the arrival time to anywhere between 6pm and 7pm. This is so everyone does not order at the same time and want their food at the same time. We have a back area that can hold 50 people, reserved for the MRC. This is open to members and non-members. So if you know anyone that would like to see Gordo, please feel free to invite them.

The other meetings for 2010 are posted on the calendar. If you have a topic you would like to present at one of the MRC meetings please let me know.

Here are a few ideas for future outings. I would like to get a feel to see if people would be interested in

attending before booking them.

1. Wanna watch some transformers blow up? Tour of Cooper Power Systems in Franksville, WI (Near Racine). They test transformers with lightening simulations.

2. Want to see how they process over 12,000 QSL cards each month? Tour the ARRL (9) Bureau in Glenview, IL.

3. Tour the Fermi Lab nuclear particle accelerator near St Charles, IL

4. Tour a local Radio station and tower.

5. Attend a Brewers game
As your new activities manager I am looking for new and fun ideas for outings and events. So if you have any ideas or are interested in attending one of the options presented above, please let me know.

As you can see there are a lot of exciting things on the horizon. I would love to email you a reminder a couple days before a meeting or event. So if you would like to be on the "Reminder" list, just send me your email.

Valerie Hotzfeld, KC9KIQ
Vhotzfeld@gmail.com

You might be addicted to Ham Radio if...

By Valerie Hotzfeld

1. You accidentally said your call sign when ending a phone call

2. Your favorite vacation spots are always on mountain tops

3. You have driven off the shoulder of the road while looking at an antenna

4. You look around your bedroom of wall to wall ham gear and ask "Why am I still single?"

5. Your family doesn't have a clue what to get you for Christmas, even after you tell

them.

6. Your HF amplifier puts out more power than the local AM radio station

7. The 1st question you ask the car salesman is "What is the alternator's current output?"

8. You have tapped out Morse Code on your car horn

9. Your wife has to ride in the back seat because your radio equipment is in the front seat

10. You are on a first name basis with the UPS and Fed Ex guy

11. Your cell phone ring tone is a Morse code message of some kind

12. Your girlfriend or wife asks "You're going to spend \$XXXX on what???"

13. When your doorbell rings, you immediately shut down the amplifier

14. You think towers look pretty

15. When you see a full moon, you wonder how much antenna gain you would need

16. You walk through the plumbing section at the hardware store and you see antenna parts

17. The local city counsel doesn't like you

18. You walk carefully in your back yard to avoid being clothes-lined

19. You park on the top floor of the parking deck, in case you have to wait in the car later

20. You would be able to pay off your mortgage if you sold all your ham radio equipment

Being More Than Just A Repeater Club

By Dean KB7QDI

I'm reminded of an axiom used for another fine amateur radio organization -- "Antennas, antennas, antennas... that's all they ever talk about!"

Now, anyone that has ever gone to those meetings knows that is simply not true. However, it brings back an opinion some believe for the MRC -- we're a repeater club. Our job is to maintain a repeater, so why do we do all this other stuff?

To a point, they're right. We do more than just keep a repeater up and running. We have presentations on morse code, working satellites, FM simplex and even EchoLink. We have picnics, parties, a swapfest, weather spotter training and Field Day.

The success of the Milwaukee Repeater Club comes from its members... those that like to chat, and those you like to socialize. Our repeater gets used because we encourage ham radio operators to talk and discuss. Our events are successful because the club wants people to come. Our Field Day weekend gets better and better every year, due in part because we combine the competitiveness of the event with the social and family atmosphere everyone can enjoy. Bring your family, bring your friends.

We have some great events coming up this year. Listen in on our nets every week. Come to the meetings and share your views. Visit the club at various ham radio functions throughout the year. You'll be glad you did.

From the Treasurer

Hello to everyone once again. I want to thank you for electing me as your 2010 Treasurer. I hope that I have lived up to your expectations during the previous year. Any suggestions you have are always welcomed. Your 2010 board has a lot of good ideas already for this year. I hope everyone is able to join some of this year's activities. It should be a great year!

I am once again excited for this year's public service events to start. Have you done any public service events in the past? Do you plan on joining any this year? Or maybe this year you will try one for the first time. Whatever you choose everyone is always welcome to join. We have our 2010 NWS Weather Spotter training coming up soon. That is a great event to make it to and it is never the same old thing. Weather is always changing where we live and it's great to know what is going on.

I will be having the audit committee review the 2009 financial information. It is being held on Saturday March 6, 2010 @ 1pm. This year's committee is made up of AB9EK Tom, KC9JWZ Bob, KA9MWT Kate, and KC9FJX John. I would like to thank them for their hard work and efforts this year. If you would be interested in reviewing any of the information please contact me or one of the committee members. Anyone interested in being on the committee please contact me at the end of the year. This committee gathers once per year to review the previous year's financial information.

Also anyone wanting to order a club badge needs to contact me at kc9nsu@arrl.net with your name as you want it

Control Operator Position

To: MRC Board of Directors
Gary Bargholz, Head of Control Operators
From: Gregg Schulz, w9awx
Milwaukee Area Skywarn Association
Re: Control Operator Position

I am writing today at the request of Control Operator and Milwaukee Area Skywarn Association President, Skip Voros.

Skip and I have talked about me obtaining the control codes for controlling the repeater system during severe weather. As a member of the Milwaukee Repeater Club, the Milwaukee Area Skywarn Association, and a net control operator for both the Club and the Association, I believe it important to have access to change the courtesy tones 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. There have been a few occasions the last few years where not having access to a control operator during severe weather events have caused some problems with getting the courtesy tones changed to the appropriate tone for the situation. Having the tone set the proper code is important as it allow members, non-member amateur radio operators, and listeners know our status without having to call for a Skywarn net control operator, tying up the frequency. As anyone who knows me can tell you, I take my role as a Skywarn Net Control station very seriously and I am aware of the responsibilities having control over the control codes has with it.

As such I respectfully submit my name at the request of Skip Voros to become a Control Operator.

From my understanding in reading the control operator charter, it has to be approved by the head control op, approved by the board, and added to the newsletter for approval at the next club meeting. With Severe Weather season already upon us, I would appreciate if this could be expedited as soon as possible so it could be added to the current newsletter or it would have to wait until the May club meeting, right in the heart of the severe weather season.

Thank you for your attention,
Sincerely
Gregg Schulz, W9AWX

Notice: Ken KC9MXZ is also a candidate for control operator

to appear on your badge and your call sign. The badges are \$7.75 each and need to be paid for before I can order them. I also encourage you to contact me if any of your information that has changed like call sign, email address, street address, phone number, or class of amateur license. Anyone wishing to send dues

or badge money may do so to the: Milwaukee Repeater Club, PO Box 2123, Milwaukee, WI 53201. Again, please feel free to contact me at anytime kc9nsu@arrl.net.

Thank you and 73,
James J. Langer, KC9NSU
MRC Treasurer

From the Secretary

Hi everyone, For those that don't know me my name is Vince and my call is KB9ZOT. I currently live in Port Washington and work in downtown Milwaukee. I also attend Concordia University pursuing a Bachelor's in Business. I was previously on the board in 2007 and 2008 as activities manager and am honored to have the opportunity to serve the club again and look forward to 2010. AES is hosting Super Fest shortly, we have our annual weather spotter training on the 27th of March before we know it summer will be here with all of its various activities. I can be reached via email at kb9zot@arrl.net . I'm also a member of the Borg collective (Star Trek: The Next Generation reference) known as Facebook.

73, Vince KB9ZOT

Board Minutes January 2010

Location: Home of Bill WQ9A, Town of Waukesha

Attendees: Bill (WQ9A), James (KC9NSU), Ken (KC9MXZ), Val (KC9KIQ), Vince (KB9ZOT), Warren (K9IZV), Dean (KB7QDI)

Meeting called to order at 1:19 pm by Bill (WQ9A)

President: Bill (WQ9A)

Reported that the repeater was on the air. Over saw a discussion that discussed the duties of club officers. Vince (KB9ZOT) read from the bylaws the duties of each position.

Will contact John (KB9SXH) regarding a bowling with the .513 club.

Discussion about some of the language that has been heard on the repeater recently about whether it has been computer generated or not.

Will contact committee members to see if they would like to remain in their current capacities. Dean volunteered to be the membership chair.

File back up was also discussed. There was discussion about regarding emailing club members meeting reminders, and asking people who would be interested in signing up for it. Same idea for an activities list. The activities list will apply to field day, all club meetings, picnic, ham fest, critique meetings, and the Christmas party.

Weather meeting will be held on March 27, 2010 at the Humboldt park pavilion from 6-10 pm. Items needed are a screen, laptop, podium, and projector.

Picnic discussion: Preferably with a pavilion, close to restrooms, and on a Saturday.

Superfest will be held on April 16 and 17th.

Activities manager: Val (KC9KIQ)

Talked about organizing a club event like a tour of a radio or television station or another ham related function.

Will work on a possible event with Gordon West when he is in town for Super Fest.

Vice-President: Ken (KC9MXZ)

Will be working on the downtown site to resolve the issues it has.

Working with James (KC9NSU) on purchasing the amplifier.



Treasurer: James (KC9NSU)

Discussed the 2010 budget. The club experienced a reduction in dues and swapfest income and therefore budgeted for less on both items in the budget.

Dean asked if paid WAR?

Also discussed the cost of snail mail copies and it was agreed to send copies with black and white photos and not color.

Secretary: Vince (KB9ZOT)

Will contact Matt (KC9COY) and see if he would like to co chair field day and swap fest.

Other Discussion:

We need to drum up membership. Dean indicated that past practice has been to send a people a letter before super fest. Warren believes this is to early . We should send letters out after the South Milwaukee swapfest. Ken suggested field day. Dean believes earlier. Warren reminded all that the bylaws say 7 and 1 half months after the annual meeting (this would put it in July). The letter should be sent two months before removal from the roster.

Field Day: Regarding the picnic, Dean believes that this should not be a dish to pass picnic. Keep this one simple so the focus will be on the main picnic. Ken suggested inviting scouts to introduce them to radion.

Other: Dean would like to reopen discussion about paying membership over the web.

Average fun net check in's since 1994 was brought up. In 2008 there were 19 and in 2009 there were 16. Highest years were 2001-2003 when the check in's were 10-20 % higher at 21-22 people.

Meeting adjourned by Bill at 3:44 pm.

Respectfully submitted, Vince Morano (KB9ZOT)

Existing Bylaws: Articles I and V:

Note: ~~removed text~~

ARTICLE I: MEMBERSHIP

The corporation is to have three classes of members: PAID, NO CHARGE, and IN SUSPENSION; however, all members shall be licensed Amateur Radio Operators. PAID members shall be those whose annual dues are properly paid up to date. NO CHARGE members are by heritage or law (family) related to a paid member and residing at the same address as that paid member, ~~or members not removed from the membership roles per Article V.~~ Members IN SUSPENSION are PAID members whose dues are not up to date, or NO CHARGE members associated with a PAID member whose dues is not up to date. Only PAID and NO CHARGE members may hold office or have voting rights. Members IN SUSPENSION ~~may~~ be removed from the membership rolls seven and one-half months after the Annual Meeting, per Article V. Any applications for membership shall be submitted at any meeting and each applicant must express a willingness to abide by the Constitution and such rules from time to time be promulgated by the corporation. Two-thirds of those present must approve the applicant and his dues shall be paid before he shall be considered a member.

Candidates for membership to the Milwaukee Repeater Club whose membership is rejected, shall not be considered for membership again until one year has elapsed from the date of the rejected membership.

ARTICLE V: DUES AND ASSESSMENTS

Section 1: Dues shall be \$20.00 per year. In addition to dues, the member vote of those present at any regular meeting, may levy upon the general membership such assessments as shall be deemed necessary for activities of the corporation within its object as set forth in the preamble hereof and the articles of incorporation. Nonpayment of such dues shall be cause for removal of IN SUSPENSION members from the membership rolls of the club ~~within discretion of~~ the Board of Directors.

Proposed revised bylaws: Articles I and V:

Note: *added changed text*

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Milwaukee Repeater Club Membership Application

Type of Application? New Member Renewal

Type of Membership? Individual Family

(If Family: Please 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. The \$20.00 dues payment covers an entire family for MRC membership.)

NAME(s) _____ CALL SIGN(s) _____

NAME(s) YOU USE ON THE AIR _____

STREET _____

CITY _____ STATE _____ ZIP _____

HOME PHONE #: _____ WORK (optional) _____

CELL (optional) _____ BIRTH DATE (optional) _____

CLASS OF LICENSE _____ EXPIRATION DATE _____

PLEASE NOTE! If there is ANY personal information that you DO NOT wish to be published into the club roster, please note it on this form.

EMAIL ADDRESS (for newsletter notification) _____

Please indicate if you would you like the Club Newsletter delivered by _____ e-mail (free of charge) or _____ U.S. Mail (additional \$5 per year)?

Are you currently an ARRL member? YES NO

DUES:

NEW MEMBERS - January thru December \$20.00 \$ _____

NEW MEMBERS – After July 1 \$10.00 \$ _____

ANNUAL RENEWAL - \$20.00 \$ _____

NEWSLETTER POSTAGE ASSESSMENT - \$5.00 \$ _____

MRC COFFEE MUG # OF CUPS _____ x \$5.00 = \$ _____

MRC NAMETAG w/MRC LOGO \$ OF NAMETAGS _____ x \$7.75 = \$ _____

DONATION TO MRC CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT FUND (tax deductible) \$ _____

TOTAL AMOUNT ENCLOSED \$ _____

Send check payable to 'Milwaukee Repeater Club' at the address below:

THE MILWAUKEE REPEATER CLUB, INC.

P.O. BOX 2123

MILWAUKEE, WI 53201

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

(Signed) _____ Date _____

Your membership will be voted on at the next membership meeting once the application is received.

THANK YOU FOR SUPPORTING THE MILWAUKEE REPEATER CLUB!