



May - 2005

Officers

Operating the 146.91- repeater under the call sign W19MRC. For best access use 127.3 PL. Mailing address: PO Box 2123 Milwaukee, WI 53201	President Bob Albert Vice Pres Mark Zentner Secretary Mike Jones Treasurer Tom Liebe Acivtes Mgr Matt Moog	AB9FB KB9VJQ K9MDJ W19TOM KC9COY	ab9fb@yahoo.com markkb9vjq@prodigy.net k9mdj@arrl.net wi9tom@arrl.net kc9coy@themoog.com
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Please contact him if you have ideas you'd like to see implemented or have equipment to donate.

Another activity is a ways off but it will be here before you know it. Our 21st Annual MRC Swapfest will be coming up in October. This year's date will be October 29th. It will be held at the Waukesha Expo Center again. Please contact my co-chair Joe (N9UX) or myself if you'd like to volunteer.

I've said it before, but I'll say it again: Membership meeting attendance is important for a club that goes in the direction you'd like to see it go. Please join us at one of our club meetings. If you're reading this newsletter on our web site because you're not a member, remember you don't have to be a member to attend our meetings. They are open to all. You could also pay your dues and join our great club at a meeting if you'd like to.

If I can be of service to anyone please feel free to contact me on the air, by e-mail (ab9fb@yahoo.com) or by phone at 414-526-7011.

Thanks
Bob, AB9FB
2005 President

News From The Vice-President

If you're looking for a better way to monitor your favorite repeater in every room of your house without feeling like you're exhausting the resources of your limited supply of HT batteries, this article is for you. I'm not sure just how many times one can charge up a battery and drain it back down again before it's no longer a reliable source of power in time of emergency or strong enough to perform through its next public service event, but I

do have a solution which has worked nicely for myself. While it is beyond the scope of this article to address the life span of the various types of rechargeable battery packs provided with the assortment of hand held transceivers on the market today, I have discovered a way to leave the HT off while I'm listening to the repeater and only power it up when I need to make a transmission.

The search for a solution began when I found myself everywhere in my new home except the ham shack constantly listening to HTs in one room or another, forgetting them in the garage or the den. I went from one room to another, sometimes leaving them behind, sometimes bringing them with me only to find the battery had been drained to near exhaustion and was going to kick the very next time I push the PTT.

The other problem with the HT is that its audio output is set up for dedicated listening if you're trying to hear it over the MIG welder, table saw, or neighbor's lawn mower, you are going to find your HT is quite insufficient.

My first solution was derived when I was a church caretaker. Often – at night when the building was empty – I would set my HT on the lectern and turn the PA system on. Regardless of where I was in the building I had plenty of 91 audio, and I was able to turn it up and shake the dust off the organ pipes, overpowering whatever power tools I was using in the basement with rich, dynamic 91 audio. Needless to say, I don't think I would have tried this with a CB, as more than once the pastor would stop by late at night to do some work in his office. Because of ham radio's high moral standard, it's highly unlikely that he or anyone else would have heard anything off color or in bad taste (much appreciated).

Meeting Notice...

May 21 (Sat) 6:00pm - Mayfair Mall Room G110 (under mall)

2005 Club Calendar...

- June 25-26** Field Day, Whitnall Park toboggan run area (Fri. setup)
- July 30 (Sat) 6:00pm**, Meetingn, Mayfair Mall Location
- August 16 (Tues) 6:00p** Meeting, Oak Creek Location
- October 24 (Mon) 6:00p** Meeting, Oak Creek Location
- October 29 (Sat)** MRC Swapfest, Waukesha Expo Center
- November 18 (Fri) 6:00p** Meeting, Oak Creek Location

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

Oak Creek Location

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

Mayfair Location (New)
Room G110 (under mall)

A Note From Your President

Hello to everyone, again. Spring is here and it's time to start thinking about some of the activities we have planned for this year. The closest one is Field Day. I have been talking to Matt (KC9COY) and it sounds like the planning is coming along.

Committees

ARES Net Coord	Jeananne	N9VSV
Computer Net	Gary	N9UUR
Control Operators	Gary	N9UUR
Emer Operations & Training	Gary	N9MGJ
Fun Net	Warren	K9IZV
Historian	Warren	K9IZV
Librarian	Steve	KC9AYN
Membership Coord	Kate	KA9MWT
Net Announcements Coord	Deb	KB9ISE

Newsletter	Heidi N9TUY & Bob AA9JW
Public Service	Kate KA9MWT
Station Trustee	Warren Schall K9IZV
Swapfest	Bob AB9FB & Joe N9UX
Swap Net	Leroy WD9HOT
Technical	Mike Borchardt N9NPB
Weather	Skip WD9HAS
Co-Webmaster	Gary N9UUR
Co-Webmaster	Richard K9RWE

Now at my new home and no longer able to reap the benefits of a class-A amplifier, I found myself going through many HT charge cycles and longing to hear that kind of high quality audio that seems to make it through any background noise. I want to be able to hear over the welder in the garage 20 feet from the speaker. I want to hear it in the basement and in the kitchen too, without installing an elaborate PA system either.

I happened upon the solution at, of all places, Farm and Fleet. A small package in the Electronics section that said, "Now you can listen to your I-pod everywhere" a small, FM, wireless, broadcast-band transmitter (low power part 15 compliant device) that can select one of 14 available transmit frequencies all in the broadcast portion of the FM band.

The input plug is an almost universal 3.5 mm plug that can receive line level output from almost every HT I own as well as my ft847 base rig. The big advantage here is battery savings on my Ht's. I can broadcast 91 audio to a boom box in my garage and to the hifi stereo in my home. The HT stays with me on my belt but is only turned on when I wish to make a transmission. The rest of the time it conserves its battery's life. The audio gain problem is also solved as I can make full use of lots of volume control otherwise unavailable with battery power. I can now put several HTs away and save them for public service and emergency communications, all the while listening to the repeater. Next article I'll discuss building a small power supply for the I-pod FM wireless transmitter.

Mark Zentner – KB9VJQ
Vice President

From the Treasurer

Hello everyone,

In case you haven't heard yet, the elections in January produced some new faces on the Board of Directors, mine being one of them, Tom WI9TOM.

Hopefully through the next year I will be to accomplish enough that everyone of you will say that I am the best Treasurer this club has ever had.

If anyone needs the White on Blue Club Badges please E-mail me or call me at (414)774-2608. Make sure that the spelling of you name is correct and that your call is correct. I will be placing the order sometime in May if enough of you order them. The cost will be

approximately \$7.50. Any money after the cost of badges and shipping will be put into the Capitol Improvement Fund.

So far I have kept up with the bills and everything is paid to date. A full report will be available at the May meeting on the 21st in the Mayfair Main Mall, Room 150.

In service to you,
Tom Liebe WI9TOM, Treasurer

From the Activities Manager

Greetings All!

Here in the Activities area, we're looking forward to another great Field Day. A number of individuals are working together to create an even better Field Day experience than last year and we're looking forward to seeing all of you there. The dates for Field Day this year are June 24th (set up), 25th, and 26th, and we welcome any help that we can get as well as any equipment that is available for use on those days. We will be having Field Day this year at the toboggan run at Whitnall Park. Some of you may remember this location from two years ago and to others it may be new. There were a number of considerations that went into our selection of our Field Day site and one big consideration was being considerate to other users of the park. Our generators create a lot of noise that I suspect some people may find disturbing, and this location removes us a bit from the general crowds that may be looking for a quiet afternoon in the park. Although two years ago it seemed as if we were a bit isolated, there was some major road construction which has now been completed. We intend to place signage at each end of the street and our banner just outside the site to help draw in foot traffic.

Again, we look forward to seeing you all there and would love to hear from you beforehand with any assistance you may be able to provide. Please contact me at KC9COY@themoog.com or 414-254-2849 with any questions, comments, concerns, and....well, you get the idea!

73's KC9COY – Matt
MRC Activities Manager

MRC Meeting Minutes *Jan 22, 2005*

Location: Mayfair Mall
Attendees: Bob (AB9FB), Mark (KB9VJQ), Mike (K9MDJ), Tom

(WI9TOM), Matt (KC9COY)
Sign in sheet shows 33 total and 25 members attended.

Meeting called to order at 6:40PM by AB9FB **President Bob (AB9FB)** Minutes of the Jan 22 Meeting ok as published – Motion by N9UX, 2nd by N9RXD carried.

New member voted in Gary AB0IQ Motion by K9IZV 2nd BY K9MDJ Carried. Bob reminded everyone that the KB9VMA memorial library is available for use by club members.

Vice President Mark (KB9VJQ) Mark presented an award to Al (N9RXD) for his community service during 2004. He pointed out that the repeater was operating on lower power than normal. This problem is being worked on.

Secretary Mike (K9MDJ) Mike is starting an inventory of club property and requested that anyone with club property contact him at k9mdj@arrl.net or 414-483-2138 so he can add the property to the inventory. He has obtained membership cards.

Anyone that needs a card can contact him at the above. Just a reminder that club members get a discount at Batteries+ .

Treasurer Tom (WI9TOM) Read the financial report. We have a total of \$10294.35 and actual expendable funds of \$962.80. Motion by DJ (KC9AYO) 2nd by KB9ALY Carried.

Activities Manager Matt (KC9COY) Field Day – Matt passed out a list of items needed for field day, and asked for suggestions for this year's site. Matt also asked for suggestions for other meeting sites for club meetings.

Old Business

None noted.

New Business

Dean KB7QDI presented the yearly financial review for 2004. There were no surprises.

Gary N9MGJ passed around a signup sheet for a "Highway Watch" presentation at the next ARES meeting.

Al N9RXD Motion to send a denial of use letter to a former member (motion withdrawn).

Al N9RXD Hams will be needed for the Tour de Cure on May 22. They would also like to use the .91 as a backup repeater. Motion N9RXD 2nd KC9COY – Carried.

Adjourned: 6:50PM_By AB9FB

Respectfully submitted,
Michael D. Jones, K9MDJ