



May - 2008

Officers

Operating the 146.91- repeater under the callsign W9MRC. For best access use 127.3 PL. Mailing address: PO Box 2123 Milwaukee, WI 53201	President Vice Pres Secretary Treasurer Activts Mgr	Dean Hoover Kurt Elfers Cindy Waltemath John Laske Vince Morano	KB7QDI N9DWG KC9HJU KC9FJX KB9ZOT	kb7qdi@yahoo.com kelfers@wi.rr.com kc9hju@arri.net johnny-05@peoplepc.com kb9zot@arri.net
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topic will be the big event in June....
FIELD DAY!

Matt KC9COY and John KC9FMC are co-chairing the event, and I know this year's

Field Day will be lots of fun for everyone. I've already talked to several people that are ready to get on the air, help out with setup, and something tells me there are going to be more than a few tents and campers out at the site, as well. That's great news for an event that not only benefits our great hobby, but also adds to the social atmosphere this club thrives on.

Also, I'm again working with Steve W9GSD on possibly getting bowling teams together between the MRC and the Milwaukee Area Amateur Radio Society (5.13 repeater group) for a match-up in September. We tried this a couple years ago, and it was a huge success. If there is enough interest, perhaps we can get other clubs to form teams and join in as well. More on that soon.

Now for the bad news. I'm sad to report that Bob AB9FB has had to resign his position as co-chair of the Swapfest committee. Bob has not only been working full-time at his job, and he still does his remodeling business on the weekends. Bob has either volunteered or co-chaired the Swapfest for the last several years, and all of us here on the board appreciate the hard work and commitment he put into the club. For the time being, I have taken over some of the responsibilities, and Matt KC9COY has said that he will continue to co-chair

the event. If you have ever thought about helping out with the Swapfest in a greater capacity, here is your chance. Get with either myself or Matt (mmoog@themoog.com).

For those interested, we will have a Swapfest again this year. It is currently scheduled for Saturday, November 1st at the Elk's Lodge on Good Hope Road (across the street from AES). We have interest from AES to help out again with possible programs, and the MRAC VE testing team has inquired about doing testing at the Swapfest again this year. We will have more information for you over the coming months.

Until next time,
73 de - Dean KB7QD

From the Treasurer

While playing around in my ham radio logging software, I have recently discovered a feature that I have never used before. The feature is the ability to link up to a DX cluster. This feature allows users to login with their ham call, location, grid square, etc. and post a report of any DX contacts made so that others can tell where the DX stations are and what contacts are being made at any given time. In using this feature, I could not help but wonder, is this feature just a tool or is this really cheating?

I am no expert on using the DX cluster feature. I have used it off and on during the last month or so. It

Meeting Notice...

May 21 (Wed) 6:30pm Meeting, Wauwatosa Savings (Basement) 6560 S. 27th Street, Oak Creek, WI

2008 Club Calendar...

June 28-29 (Sat-Sun) Field Day
July 16 (Wed) Meeting
September 10 (Wed) Meeting
October 8 (Wed) Meeting
November 1 (Sat) Swapfest
November 12 (Wed) Meeting

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

From the President

Finally, spring is upon us! What's the saying.... April showers bring May flowers? I wonder if we still get flowers in May if it snowed in April? <grin>

I have good news and bad news in this newsletter article. The good news is the Milwaukee Repeater Club has a lot of great events coming up over the next few months. Soon will be our membership meeting, where at least one

Committees

Awards Al KC9IJJ	Newsletter Heidi N9TUY & Bob AA9JW
Computer Net Dean KB7QDI	Public Service Kate KA9MWT
Control Operators Gary N9UUR	Station Trustee Warren Schall K9IZV
Emer Operations & Training . Gary N9MGJ	Swapfest Bob AB9FB & Matt KC9COY
Fun Net Warren K9IZV	Swap Net Leroy WD9HOT
Historian Warren K9IZV	Technical Mark KB9VJQ
Librarian Steve W9GSD	Weather Skip WD9HAS
Membership Coord. Kate KA9MWT	Webmaster Gary N9UUR
Net Announcements Coord . . Milan N9IDX	Asst. Webmaster Donovan KC9FGJ

seems to be quite handy and can provide a lot of information, maybe too much. Depending upon the time of day and band conditions, etc., there can be quite a few listing or very few listings. Since you are relying on other hams' reports, the type of information, like call sign, frequency used, etc., also isn't always correct. People sometimes report the call sign or frequency used incorrectly. I'm not sure if this is just a typo or if they just heard it wrong, or if it is intentional. I take all the reported information with a grain of salt. One thing I do like about it is, when the band seems dead here, I look at the cluster information, and usually there is almost always some DX being worked from somewhere. Even though I may not hear it, it is reassuring to me to know that there is some ham radio activity somewhere.

Do I use the cluster exclusively? No, of course I don't. I still scan the bands as I use to do to see what I can hear. I still on occasion will call CQ as well. The cluster gives me the chance to post the contacts that I make. I do this in hopes to give others a better chance of working some DX. In my view, with the band conditions not being too good, it can be quite difficult to find some DX in the first place on occasion. I do not consider it cheating. I consider it just another of many tools one can use in amateur radio.

On a totally unrelated matter, again I have to ask, if any member wants to make the change for newsletter delivery via email, I encourage them to contact me. You can be assured that if you make this change, your email address will be held confidential and will not be used for any other purpose except for club business. Due to the increase costs associated with the newsletter printing and mailings, starting this year there is an additional assessment fee for anyone who still desires to receive the newsletter via US Mail. So if you have paid your dues or are planning on paying your dues in the future, please remember this. If you do not pay the assessment fee for this year and I have an email address on file for you, I will automatically change your newsletter notification to email.

I also encourage you to contact me if any of your information like call sign, email address, street address, phone number, or class of amateur license has changed. Please contact me and let me know the updated information. You can contact me via email at johnny-05@peoplepc.com or you can mail it to the club's post office box. If I can be of any service to you, please do not hesitate to contact me. Again, thanks to those who have made the change to email for your newsletter notification.

Thank You,
John Laske – KC9FJX

Short Notes

Name Badge

Anyone wishing to purchase an MRC name badge should e-mail Tom WI9TOM at wi9tom@arrl.net. The price is \$7.75, and anything left after the badges are sent will be put in the Capital Improvement Fund.

Yahoo! Group Page

Come visit SE Wisconsin's only Yahoo! group page:
<http://groups.yahoo.com/group/amateurradiomilwaukee>

It is designed specifically to promote all the great people and clubs in SE Wisconsin. It contains links to all the different clubs in the area, times and locations of the different area nets, and also an opportunity to ask a question on a ham-radio topic, or share your unique knowledge.

Club Library

The club library is still available for those wanting to know more about upgrading, antennas, and all the other aspects of this great hobby. Talk to Steve W9GSD and ask what's available.

MRC Meeting Minutes, March 8, 2008

Location: Woodlawn Lutheran Church
2217 South 99th Street, West Allis, WI 53227
Meeting called to order at _ 6:30 PM _ By Dean (KB7QDI)

President - Dean (KB7QDI)

There was a motion by Gregg (W9AWX) to approve membership for (1) new member Ken (KC9MXZ)
The motion was seconded by John (KB9LYS). A vote was taken and membership was approved.

Vice President - Kurt (N9DWG)

March 08' Jefferson Hamfest
April 08' Appeton Swapfest

Treasurer - John (KC9FJX)

Financial Report
Club Membership at 203 Members
MRC name badges to be placed this week by Tom (WI9TOM)
Tower Rent is \$450 every 3 months
There was a motion by John (KC9FMC) to approve the financial report and the motion was seconded by AL (N9RXD).

Activities Manager - Vince (KB9ZOT)

Vince is looking into available parks for the MRC 2008 picnic.

Technical Committee

Mark (KB9VJQ) was not present, however a platform is being built by Mark for the new cavities.

Field Day

Last weekend in June 2008
Matt (KC9COY) and John (KC9FMC) to co-chair event.

Old Business

Gary (N9MGJ) made a correction to the newsletter Dean's callsign was incorrectly stated.

New Business

The MRC Swapfest will be the first Saturday in November @ the Elk's Club.
Elk's Club
5555 West Good Hope Road
Milwaukee, WI
The group made approximately \$1900.00 at the 2007 event.
September 20th and 21st is the Peoria, IL Swapfest
Gary (N9MGJ) will be giving away 2 tickets to the Peoria, IL Swapfest.
Motion to adjourn the meeting by AL (N9RXD) and seconded by Gary (N9MGJ).
Weather Training to follow the membership meeting at 7:30 PM.

Adjourned _ 7:05 PM By_ Dean (KB7QDI)

Respectfully Submitted:
Cynthia Waltemath (KC9HJU)

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 NAME TAG w/MRC LOGO	\$ OF NAME TAGS _____ x \$7.50 =	\$	_____
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!