



July - 2007

Officers

Operating the 146.91- repeater under the callsign WI9MRC. 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 Mike Jones John Lasko Vince Morano	KB7QDI N9DWG K9MDJ KC9FJX KB9ZOT	kb7qdi@yahoo.com kelfers@wi.rr.com k9mdj@arrl.net johnny-05@peoplepc.com vincemorano@yahoo.com
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later in the afternoon, and then went back to the high 80's afterwards. Great... not only is it hot, but now it's hot AND humid!

On the other hand, no matter how hot I thought it was, there was my daughter, Ashley. She was either swimming in the nearby ocean or laying back in our friend's back-yard pool. I guess hot is only what you make of it.

I did notice one other item worth mentioning. Later in the evening, we would go out to dinner. The temps are now in the low 80's - much more comfortable for me - and my friend from Florida is complaining on how COLD it is outside. I just giggled, then told him that I would take a week of Florida's hottest weather if they endured one week of Wisconsin's coldest. Funny... I never got an answer to that.

Okay.... back on topic. Instead of discussing the usual club business, I thought I would talk about something less club-related, but still amateur radio.

In my opinion, it is much easier to get a amateur radio license now than it was even 5-10 years ago. This is more than just the 'no-code' part of a Technician license. There are some, as operators, who are getting more and more caught up in being appliance operators. We can purchase a radio, program it to talk on the repeater, but do we really know what is inside it, other than the battery?

Don't get me wrong, I am very much caught in the same web. I can recall the questions from the exam that talked about the different pieces to a transceiver, but I'm pretty sure if I opened up one of my radios I couldn't separate which piece was which.

Sure, radios are much smaller now, and we are able to do so much more with an HT then anyone was able to do with transceivers made 20-30 years ago. However, after listening to different clubs, and conversations on our own repeater, I am getting the sense

that perhaps we are getting too dependent on other people we really don't know to keep this hobby (or service) alive.

Should we rebel?..... no, that's not what I'm saying. I would ask that you think about it, put my comments into your own personal perspective, and use it to try and better this hobby/service in your own positive way. Even small steps on our part to better amateur radio will make big waves to those wanting to join in the future.

Until next time, 73 de
Dean KB7QDI

From the Activities Manager

Hi everyone,

When I first became interested in ham radio it was eventually talk all over the world. The only time that happens is on Field Day. However, I discovered public service events. I worked the Miller Lite Ride for the Arts on June 3 along with many of our fellow hams. During the ride my partner at the intersection where I was assigned was fascinated by the fact that I could monitor the ride communications all over even though we were in Cudahy and also communicate with the net control if I needed to. We also had severe weather later in the day and there was a weather net. I always had a small interest in weather and learned how important the ham community is to the safety of our community by reporting conditions that could endanger life. Nobody is paid to do these events, plan these events, or even required to do them. We do them for the greater public good. We set an example to everyone we meet and anyone who monitors our frequency by police scanner.

Meeting Notice...

July 14 (Saturday) 7:00 PM Meeting and presentation on Sky Command At Wheaton Franciscan Healthcare 400 West River Woods Parkway, Glendale, WI (0.3 miles South of Hampton Ave. off Port Washington Road) (0.7 miles North of Capitol Dr. off Port Washington Road)

2007 Club Calendar...

August 25 (Sat) Summer Picnic Bring the whole family at NOON, with the picnic lunch starting at 1 PM. Location is Whitnall Park - Picnic Area 7. The club will sponsor the hamburgers and hot dogs, and we ask that members bring a small dish to pass.

September 12 (Wed) Meeting

October 22 (Wed) Meeting

November 21 (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

How hot is too hot? I ask that because I just came back from a much needed vacation in Florida, and man, was it hot! Most of the week the temperatures reached 95 degrees during the afternoon. A couple days it rained

Committees

ARES Net Coord	Jeananne	N9VSV
Awards	Al	KC9IJJ
Computer Net	Dean	KB7QDI
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	Maureen	KB9VLJ

Newsletter	Heidi N9TUY & Bob AA9JW	
Public Service	Kate	KA9MWT
Station Trustee	Warren Schall	K9IZV
Swapfest	Bob AB9FB & Matt KC9COY	
Swap Net	Leroy	WD9HOT
Technical	Mark	KB9VJQ
Weather	Skip	WD9HAS
Webmaster	Gary	N9UUR
Asst. Webmaster	Donovan	KC9FGJ

We don't always know when someone is listening, we always must assume that. As Skip WD9HAS says "We are amateur in name only" .

Hope everyone enjoyed field day this year. I know I did and it couldn't happen without the efforts of people who volunteered their time, equipment, food, and anything else I may have forgotten. A very big thank you to Dean KB7QDI, and Matt KC9COY for co-chairing the field day activities. Our next membership meeting is Saturday July 14 at Wheaton Fransiscan Healthcare in Glendale. This will be the same place where we had the weather training. The topic will be Sky Command. Hope to see all of you there.

73, Vince KB9ZOT

From the Vice President

Keeping the hobby alive

Sometimes people debate whether amateur radio is a service or a hobby. I think most of us agree it has aspects of both. In this article I am looking at the hobby related aspects of amateur radio. From a hobby perspective this is one certainly has a lot of aspects to it. Most of us just touch on a few of the aspects of the hobby. So, how do we keep the hobby alive and not become just a bunch of radio operators? After all, anyone can purchase and operate a radio (with a license of course). There are many things we can do. One thing I try to do is build something at least once a year. I am not talking about building a complete radio with memories, digital display, multi-band, etc. Projects of that caliber are far beyond my capabilities, budget and time constraints. But what about the simpler projects, such as a microphone switch box so one desk mic can feed multiple radios or a power distribution fuse panel for powering all my shack equipment. Other things like a simple transceiver – PC audio interface, or a rig to PC programming interface cable. Antennas can be great projects. These can be very simple and inexpensive or very elaborate. Dozens, if not hundreds, of circuit diagrams are available on the internet, or for the more ambitious, you can design it yourself. So why don't we each set a goal to build something amateur radio related at least once a year. The little projects seem to all prove very useful, are relatively inexpensive, and keep our skills up. None of the projects I have built have turned out perfect - but each one is a little better. The experience you gain from each is the most useful part. Plus using them

can be a lot of fun.

– by Kurt Elfers, N9DWG

Weather Reporting

The 2007 Severe weather reporting format demonstrated at the highly attended March meeting is now on-line at: http://www.mrc91.org/wx_criteria_handout_2007.pdf Everyone should make a copy and become familiar with the format. Anyone having trouble locating their distance and direction from the city centers can contact me for help. (svoros@execpc.com)

Skip Voros WD9HAS

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/amateurradio_milwaukee

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 KC9AYN and ask what's available.

MRC Meeting Minuits May 16 , 2007

Location: Oak Creek

Attendees: Dean(KB7QDI), Kurt(N9DWG), Mike(K9MDJ), John(KC9FJX), Vince(KB9ZOT)
Plus sign-in list

Meeting called to order at _7:08pm_ by _KB7QDI_

President Dean(KB7QDI)

- Motion to accept new members by Milan N9IDX, 2nd by John KC9FMC. Motion passed.
Welcome to Robert WD9AXM, Dean K8QPP, Ray KC9BLM, Carlos KG9FC, David KI4NRX, Valerie KC9KIQ, Robert KC9FBP, Natalie KC9KIR, Adam KC9KXC, Jason KC9LGC, and Robert N9MTU
- Motion to accept the minutes of the March 24, 2007 meeting by Bob AB9FB 2nd by Al KC9IJJ. Motion passed.
- We may have a DStar presentation for the July meeting.
- KC9IJJ presented the club awards for 2006:
 - The friendly one – Charley KC9CEQ
 - Outstanding service to the club – Jack W9ULA.
- Al is also accepting nominations for the 2007 awards. Suggestions can be emailed to him at kc9ijj@arrl.net.
- Dean has a few shirts from the 2005 Field day laid out on the back table, if you want one please make a donation to the club. (All the shirts were taken).
- Field Day will be at Whitnall Park again. We will need help for setup Friday after 1:00pm and for Sunday takedown.

Vice President Kurt(N9DWG) (Not Present)

Secretary Mike (K9MDJ)

Vote on the motion to amend the bylaws as previously read and published in the March minutes. Motion passed unanimously.

Article IV Section 1 Paragraph 2

previously read in part:

“Written notice stating the place, day and hour of the annual or a regular meeting shall be delivered not less than ten nor more than thirty days before the date of the annual or regular meeting.”

Changed to:

“Written or Electronic notice stating the place, day and hour of the annual or a regular meeting shall be delivered not less than ten nor more than thirty days before the date of the annual or regular meeting.”

Treasurer John(KC9FJX)

- Financial Statement total funds \$9084.58 Expendable funds \$3602.23. Motion to accept by Charles KC9IIV, 2nd by Gary N9MGJ, Motion passed.

Activities Manager Vince(KB9ZOT)

- Vince is looking at other meeting locations. Most places charge for meeting space.
- Field Day – Steven KC9EKU is planning a bike ride in conjunction with Field Day. We will have a chance to demonstrate the advantages of ham radio to the club at the end of their ride.

Old Business

- Tech update by Mark KB9VJQ
 - Mark has some club property that is actually unuseable junk – deead batteries, old coax and the old main site antenna. He will list these itema on the inventory along with their disposition so there is a record of what was disposed of.
 - The Main Site antenna is up. The coax holds pressure and Mark will find some nitrogen to pressurize the line with to keep moisture out.
 - The SE site antenna and coax were replaced.
 - The Henry Amp – the dual switching power supplies in the amp may be the cause of some of the failures. They were not well balanced and were throwing spikes near the PA transistors max voltage rating.
- Swapfest update by Bob AB9FB
 - The swapfest will be at the Elks Club across from AES on Good Hope. There is not

as much space as the Waukesha Expo but the fees at the Expo are killing us. We made \$300.00 profit last year.

- There is a \$200.00 reservation fee, John KC9FMC said he would donate the \$200.00 for the reservation fee. Thanks much, John.
- The Scouts will handle the food at the Swapfest, and will keep the proceeds on the food sales. This way we don't pay any kitchen rental and don't have to handle the food and cleanup. Previous food sales were breaking even with the costs of food and kitchen rental.
- There will probably be VE testing at AES on that day.
- Bob AB9FB made a motion to spend up to \$500.00 on a raffle. 2nd by Mark KB9VJQ.
- Newsletters – The club now pays postage for mailing the Newsletter, please request email delivery if you are able to.
- Articles for the Newsletter can be accepted from any member. Any submissions would be appreciated.

New Business

- Dean KB9VJQ has signup lists for Field Day Shirts (\$10-\$12) and coffee mugs with the club logo (\$5)
- Gray N9MGJ:
 - The Midland 74-200 weather monitor has been recalled, if you have one with a SN of 904XXX or 905XXX contact Midland.
 - Weather Radios are available at AES and other Department Stores. The newer radios have selective alerting to different hazards.

Adjourned 9:10pm By KB7QDI

Respectfully submitted: Michael
D. Jones (K9MDJ)

The Milwaukee Repeater Club Inc. ; P.O. Box 2123, Milwaukee, WI 53201 Membership / Renewal Application

Call sign _____ Name _____ Expiration 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

Milwaukee Repeater Club
PO Box 2123
Milwaukee, WI 53201

Stamp