



# September - 2000

## Officers

Operating the 146.91- repeater under the callsign K9IZV. For best access use 127.3 PL.	President Vice Pres Secretary Treasurer Activities Manager	Mike Borchardt Mike Zore Ron Henry Gary Bargholz Sally Stanton	N9NPB KB9PHA N9KWWW N9UUR KB9LSP	367-3953 258-4435 786-7512 355-6922 774-6252
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## MEETINGS NOTICE

**Sept. 9** (Sat) 7:00pm-- Business meeting with a presentation and display of microphones and related equipment by Mr. Bob Paquette, Sr., owner of the largest private collection of microphones in the world. The Oak Creek location.

## 2000 CLUB CALENDAR

- Oct. 26** (Thurs) at Mayfair location.
- Nov. 4** (Sat) Swapfest at the Waukesha County Expo Center
- Nov. 22** (Weds) at Mayfair location.
- Dec. 16** (Sat) at Mayfair location.

**Board Meetings:** 2nd Monday of month, 7:00p. Call a board member for meeting location.

### 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. Swing around left and go down the long hall. At the end of the hall find room G-110.

## NOTES FROM THE PRESIDENT...

Hello again:  
Well, August 6 has come and gone . . . . you know, the day the weatherman said it would rain cats and dogs? Well, it did rain--kinda. A little. Very little. Hardly noticeable. But did that stop us from having a picnic? I DON'T THINK SO. Thanks Sally KB9LSP and Mike KB9PHA for a great time. We had food, fun and (get this) door prizes. Pretty cool, hey? We also had a good turn-out. Thanks, Gary and Jeananne, for bringing the Splat Balls. More fun than water balloons.

We have a new Web Master: Todd Zabel N9JXA. I received an E-Mail from him in regards to being Web Master. I looked up some of the work he's currently doing and they're pretty nice-looking. Thank you, Todd, for filling a needed vacancy.

Brad N9KXA and I are moving right along on getting the necessary circuits put together to get the Morse code letter "B" back on the repeater. The circuits will also put the system in battery back-up mode to simulate power outages for testing back-up reliability. The design will allow us to do this remotely or at the Main Site. In the future, after the circuits are in place, the Morse code letter "B" will automatically replace our normally used "E" as the courtesy beep if we lost Wisconsin Electric and are running on battery.

Thank you all who came to the last membership meeting. I only knew a few days before the meeting that the gentleman who was to put on the

presentation that evening backed out at the last minute. This didn't give us enough time to put together a new program. Also, there was some new information and some needed information about our tower situation. We also neglected to properly post in the last newsletter the by-law change to be voted on. You will find in this newsletter proper notification about a proposed by-law change regarding our dues.

Sorry to keep this article short, but there is a bazillion things going on regarding the MRC. I could write a book, so that's all for now. Hope to see you at the meeting.

Thank You,  
Mike N9NPB  
President

## 2 CENTS WORTH FROM THE TREASURER...

Hello MRC!  
Everything is going fine.... But the busy season (the SWAPFEST!) is just around the corner now. It will be at the Waukesha County Expo Center, on Nov. 4th, 2000. We will again run a "split" swapfest this year a "Hamfest" and a "Computer EXPO". The Hamfest will be in the South and East rooms; we are moving the Computer EXPO to the NORTH room. This move reflects the smaller size of the Computer vendor space needed, and will allow the Hamfest to expand back into the larger East room.

The Ham operator group at the Sullivan Weather Office is trying to raise a few dollars by selling Weather Alert Radios. This is a very nice SAME capable radio from Midland; I've played with one. If

## Committees

Activities . . . . . Sally . . . . . KB9LSP	Station Trustee . . . . . Warren Schall . . . . . K9IZV
Computer Net . . . . . Gary . . . . . N9UUR	Swapfest . . . . . Board . . . . .
Fun Net . . . . . Warren . . . . . K9IZV	Swap Net . . . . . Lloyd . . . . . WB9RGO
Membership Coord. . . . . Kate . . . . . KA9MWT	Technical . . . . . Mike Borchardt . . . . . N9NPB
Net Announcements Coord . . . . . Deb . . . . . KB9ISE	Weather . . . . . Skip . . . . . WD9HAS
Newsletter . . . . . Heidi N9TUY & Bob AA9JW	Webmaster . . . . . Open . . . . .
Public Service . . . . . Kate . . . . . KA9MWT	Assistant - Webmaster Rick . . . . . WD9IWK

you're considering a new NWS alert radio, please consider ordering it through the Sullivan Weather Ops! Contact Tom KA9EJW e-mail> tj kuch@execpc.com

At the last meeting of the Wisconsin Association of Repeaters, a discussion was held about a proposed frequency band plan for Wisconsin. If you haven't seen it yet... you can download an Adobe Acrobat Document of the proposed plan from: <http://www.wi-repeaters.org/bandplan.pdf> or give me a call and I'll send one to you. The plan outlines areas of spectrum for simplex, repeater inputs/outputs, links, packet, etc. As we move toward National Frequency Coordination, it is important to have our (Wisconsin's) current operational band and sub band usage documented and available to other coordination bodies.

Please look over the "Proposed Wisconsin Bandplan", discuss it at your club and group meetings. Please write any comments, additions or observations to the W.A.R. Frequency Coordinator Dave Karr KA9FUR@wi-repeaters.org or myself the W.A.R. Chairman, N9UUR@wi-repeaters.org

If you would like to talk about the Band Plan, or any other Repeater or Coordination issues, the next meeting of The Wisconsin Association of Repeaters will be held right here in Milwaukee on September 9, 2000 at the Chalet Motel, 10401 N. Port Washington Rd, in Mequon, WI. Lunch at Noon, meeting starts at 1:00 PM.

73 Gary  
N9UUR

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### FROM THE SECRETARY...

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Please note the official notice published in this newsletter. It is very important that we vote on this at the next general membership meeting on September 9 2000. We must have a quorum in order to conduct this very important business.

There are other very important events that are in the works, many issues need to be resolved such as our big event of the year (our annual fund-raising event) the swap fest/ Computer expo. There are many opportunities for you to have an impact by participating on one of the committees. Hope to see you there.

Ron Henry  
N9KWW

### OFFICIAL NOTICE

PURSUANT TO ARTICLE VII  
SUBSECTION IV NOTICE IS HEREBY  
GIVEN OF A PROPOSED BYLAW  
CHANGE TO ARTICLE V.

#### CURRENT:

##### ARTICLE V: DUES AND ASSESSMENTS

Section 1. Dues shall be \$12.00 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 the activities of the corporation within it's 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 ARTICLE V:

##### 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 the activities of the corporation within it's 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.

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### FROM THE ACTIVITIES MANAGER...

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**We use them every day, ham radio wouldn't be the same without them, and they get smaller all the time. What are they? Microphones!!**

Don't miss the next membership meeting on Saturday, September 9 at 7 p.m., at the Wauwatosa Savings Bank in Oak Creek! Mr. Bob Paquette, Sr., founder and owner of Select Sound Service, will give a presentation about the history, development and use of microphones based on his experience collecting and using microphones and sound equipment

for over 50 years. Bob says his is the largest collection of microphones in the world, and after seeing it, I believe it! He'll bring some of his historic and fascinating microphones and share some fascinating stories, facts and figures with us. Bob himself is pretty interesting, as well. Over the years he has collected microphones and all sorts of other electronic recording and transmitting equipment, like television cameras, phonographs and Morse code keys. He started his own sound business in 1958, and has also coached diving and taught gymnastics. Just about every member of his family has been involved in the sound business at some point.

This will be a great program, please come and bring your friends and family!

### Sizzle, Sizzle, Drizzle Drizzle, Munch, Munch, Munch, Splat, Splat, Splat!

If you didn't recognize those sounds, you weren't there!!! Those were some of the many noises made at the annual MRC Picnic, held at Hoyt Park on Sunday, August 6. Despite the heavy rain on Saturday and predictions for showers and thunderstorms, the sun shone Sunday morning as MRC members and families defied the National Weather Service and the unstable air mass over southeast Wisconsin for a leisurely Sunday afternoon at the park.

Mike Zore, KB9PHA, cooked up a storm of his own on the Weber, turning out burgers, hot dogs, brats and bacon (oh, yeah, we had baconburgers!) as fast as the hungry hams could eat them. Warren, K9IZV, did his usual fine job of exhorting everyone who hadn't paid their dues yet to join up. Deb, KB9ISE, brought her fabulous brownies and did a fine job exhorting everyone who hadn't eaten one to finish off the pan. (No leftovers!) Many thanks to the folks who helped us load and unload, and those who brought goodies to share with everyone.

Did I say there were door prizes? You missed those, too! Just about everyone got a little something just for showing up. Ask N9NPB about his "Fantascope" and KB9ISE about her multimeter!

Now here's where the "Splat" part comes in. Jeananne, N9VSV, brought along some "water bombs," soft foam balls that soaked

up and held ice water very nicely and made a great "Splat!" when they hit! Just about everyone got into the action once these little soakers got flying. Ed, KB9ALY and his daughter had a good rivalry going, and with half the board on one side of the tables and half on the other, everyone got pelted at least once.

A few sprinkles around 3:30, a darkening sky and "Ollie" from Sullivan radio making a dispassionate announcement about Severe Thunderstorm Watches was enough to convince us to reluctantly pack up the party and head home before we got any wetter.

Hope to see you all at next year's picnic!

--Sally KB9LSP  
Activities Manager

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## MRC MEETING MINUTES JULY 27, 2000

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N9NPB called meeting to order at 7:15pm

call of all members present name and call sign

N9NPB read the names and call signs of new members.

K9XU DICK ADDUCI, KB9WEY FAMILY MEMBER, KB9G MICKEY DOLGIN, KF9QD NELS FRIIS, WB9JIC PAT VOLKMANN, KB9IIG DAVE WESTER, KB9WAZ GEORGE WOLWARK, WD9BCV MARTY ZEIGELBAUER, KB9VSG JEFF ANNIS.

MOVED BY KB9RLB to accept new members

SECONDED by KF9RU  
unanimous

M&I bank is changing all account numbers, they will issue us a new account number and supply us with a new set of checks.

Technical report: battery failure was due to bad batch of batteries from manufacturer. This caused system failure on 2 July 2000 after severe weather caused commercial power outage.

Replacement was no charge.

Voter: looking into improvement of software and possible upgrade.

Old business:

Expo/swap fest raffle tickets, discussion. Several possibilities were explored. No

recommendation at this time.

On the air station for general public as well as licensed hams to operate during fest similar to a field day station. Station could also pass 3<sup>rd</sup> party traffic. Board to look into possible station. Forums as another possible addition to fest. Several ideas were presented to keep people at fest longer as well as increasing attendance. Door prizes and raffle as an extra were discussed.

8:24 pm break called by N9NPB

8:50 pm meeting called back to order, all present as before.

A straw poll was conducted on pre sales of raffle tickets, what the prizes should be.

Pre-sales or raffle tickets will require full membership participation to be successful.

Prizes suggested: color TV, HARLEY DAVIDSON motorcycle, chain saw, ice auger, PC Pentium III 800 MHZ, cash, weather radio, boom box, laptop, palm pilot, g.p.s. unit, microwave, automobile, appliances, zoo/museum membership, vacation package, travel package, big screen TV, VCR/satellite, computer upgrades, software, etc, sporting goods.

BY LAW CHANGE: due to a technical error the by law change has been postponed to the next meeting  
N9NPB brought us up to date on tower lease, lease is still in progress, received correspondence concerning tower, the tower is coming due for replacement, this will impact our lease and rent. A new location is being sought as a plan "B" should our current location become untenable.

N9NPB read name of new member who paid his dues at the meeting, N9JXA TODD ZABEL  
moved by KB9ISE TO ACCEPT,  
SECONDED BY N9RXD unanimous

N9HIP moved to adjourn seconded by N9MGJ -- unanimous

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## MRC BOARD MEETING SUMMARY JULY 24, 2000

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QTH N9KWW

N9KWW, N9UUR, N9PHA, KB9PHA, KB9LSP, K9IZV, KB9VPZ  
opened at 8:00 pm

A: WEATHER : Proposed monthly

weather training. Suggested on Sat. night fun net,. Also on any other night when no other net is scheduled. Skip WD9HAS to conduct an interactive net on severe weather and Warren K9IZV will evaluate.

B: N9UUR financial report: Reviewed.

C: TOWER LEASE: in progress, reviewing proposed changes. Board looking into other alternatives.

D: BANKING CHANGE: our bank is changing account numbers. Bank will provide replacement checks. Our old checks are valid until our new checks arrive at which time we will destroy old checks and continue with new account number and checks. This is an internal, bank mandated change.

E: MEMBERSHIP MEETING GUEST SPEAKER: our guest speaker may not be available due to job change. Will continue to seek a representative for meeting.

F: TOWERS: Board is looking into other tower sites as an alternative to our present location. The criterium is the new site must be equal to or better than our current site in pattern and availability. Board to look at several sites and make recommendation to membership when completed. Discussion.

8:40 pm off record, discussion.

9:00 pm Returned to open meeting

G: MAIN SITE OUTAGE: Main site outage on 2 July 00 after severe storm was due to faulty battery. Replaced battery, tested and installed back to normal operation. When we returned battery it was noted that there was a batch of bad batteries from dealer, faulty lot from manufacturer. Replacement battery was no charge. Total system test was run and no other faults noted. Working on case for audio transformer to assist in proper voting. Will be rack- mounted system. Looking into possible change in system software to enable Technical Committee to run a simulated power outage.

H: SWAP FEST COMPUTER EXPO: remarks from last years fest were noted and considered changes to this year's event.

1. Food was well received and all comments were very good.

2. Raffle results were not as expected, comments ranged from good idea to removal of raffle. Board reviewed noted

and recommended the following changes. Prize structure needs to be changed. Several ideas were brought up, discussion followed, will review again and recommend final prize structure. Also looking into pre-sale of tickets. N9UUR to apply for license. Tickets were reviewed, we will print up tickets for admission and another set for raffle. Design to be considered by committee. Possible to print tickets on site such as movie theaters. No recommendation at this time. Age cut off for free admittance: discussion, policy review and determined that there is currently no official policy. Motion by N9KWW to set at 12 years of age, under 12 free admission. Seconded by KB9PHA unanimous. Hours of operation were discussed. Last year's fest vendors and most of the crowd left well before closing and the event was closed early. 5 pm was considered to be very late for most vendors and fest attendees. This year hours will be from 8 am to 3 pm. With more vendors on computer expo side look forward to an extended crowd and with food attraction more will stay and attend our event. In addition with advertising we should see an increase in total attendees as well as more of the general public. Ad committee N9RXD and N9TPT were asked to be on the Advertising Committee and make recommendation to the Board as to type, placement and duration of ads. Other members are also sought to be on this very important committee. KB9PHA to head up committee. Admission price was discussed, several different possibilities were brought up, one thought was to include a raffle ticket in the price of admission. This would mean that we would have to print up 3 types of tickets: one for raffle only, one for admission only and one set for both admission and raffle. Tabled. Booth space cost. Discussion tabled. All outstanding event issues will be finalized at the next board meeting. Flyers will also be finalized at the next board meeting.

Motion made by N9UUR to adjourn seconded by KB9LZP  
Unanimous

## 6.91 COURTESY BEEP

For over 10 years the Milwaukee Repeater Club has changed the 6.91 courtesy beep to inform our club membership and the S-E Wisconsin ham community at large as to the potential for hazardous weather within our 13 county coverage area and that amateur radio storm spotters (SKYWARN) activation may be requested by the National Weather Service.

The 6.91 courtesy beep changes have been well received over the years because it never interferes with on-going conversations, and just by listening to the repeater you can determine the hazardous weather potential during the summer season.

For the newcomer to our 6.91 family, or as a refresher for some of us who forgot the meanings, here is a breakdown:

Morse code "E" (Dit sound) standard normal courtesy beep.

Morse code "I" (dit-dit sound) Severe weather is possible or locally forecasted. Think in terms of "Iffy, Impending, Inclement." Take your H-T with you and charge your spare batteries. Repeater conversations should be normal, but may be interrupted for brief severe weather events.

Morse code "S" (Dit-dit-dit sound) A Severe Thunderstorm Watch or Tornado Watch has been issued affecting our coverage area. Think in terms of "Standby." Repeater conversations should be reduced and expect increasing weather traffic as storms develop and the weather net crew sets up.

Morse code "N" (dah-dit sound) Means that a Net Control Station (NCS) is on the frequency. Think in terms of "Net," and that all traffic must first go thru the NCS. With a Skywarn (severe weather) net the situation could be serious somewhere in our coverage area. Only weather and some emergency traffic are permitted. Be helpful by assisting and following the NCS instructions.

Skip Voros/WD9HAS  
Skywarn/Svr Wx Coord.  
svoros@execpc.com

## NEWSLETTER

Send articles, reports, comments, suggestions and corrections to Bob AA9JW or Heidi N9TUY Manak (N28 W22173 Burningwood Lane, Waukesha, WI 53186; ☎ 262 544-6151) or Internet Email rmanak@execpc.com