



# October - 2005

## Officers

Operating the 146.91- repeater under the call sign WI9MRC.	President	Bob Albert	AB9FB	ab9fb@yahoo.com
For best access use 127.3 PL.	Vice Pres	Mark Zentner	KB9VJQ	markkb9vjq@prodigy.net
Mailing address: PO Box 2123	Secretary	Mike Jones	K9MDJ	k9mdj@arrl.net
Milwaukee, WI 53201	Treasurer	Tom Liebe	WI9TOM	wi9tom@arrl.net
	Activtes Mgr	Matt Moog	KC9COY	kc9coy@themoog.com

## Meeting Notice...

**October 24** (Mon) 6:00p Meeting  
Swapfest Planning, Oak Creek Location

## 2005 Club Calendar...

**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. 27<sup>th</sup> Street, Oak Creek, WI

**Mayfair Location** (New)  
Room G110 (under mall)

## A Note From Your President

Well, summer is gone and it's time to look forward to fall activities. Besides raking leaves and putting away that lawn mower there are a few ham activities to look forward to. The biggest one I'm involved in is the MRC Swapfest. It's coming up very soon. Also, before we know it, it will be Christmas party time. Stay tuned for a note from Matt (KC9COY) for the details on that.

I want to take a moment to personally thank Don (WA9ERI) for the opportunity he gave me to promote our club. During

the Hurricane Katrina disaster, Don was asked by the media to provide them with an explanation of what ham radio operators are doing to help. Don arranged for several of the local television stations and the Milwaukee Journal/Sentinel to come to my house to do an interview. We explained the importance of hams providing emergency communication when all other forms of communication were out. I was proud to be a part of this. Channels 6, 12 and 18 came out for the interviews. If you missed the airing and are interested in seeing it, I will be showing the news video at our October 24<sup>th</sup> meeting. Again Don, thanks so much for organizing this and including me in it. Also, since we didn't have any emergency traffic to pass at the time of the interview, I want to thank those that were on the 91 to help me give the media a demonstration of actual ham communication. Warren (K9IZV), Josh (KC9HYR) and Mark (KB9VJQ) all joined in the conversation. It gave the MRC a little free publicity and showed all that we do more than just rag chew.

Speaking of the meeting, I'd like to see each and every one of you there. Participation is the key. See the meeting section of this newsletter for more details.

Your 2005 MRC President,  
Bob, AB9FB

## MRC 2005 Swapfest

The time is rapidly approaching. Our Swapfest will be held October 29<sup>th</sup> at the Waukesha County Expo Center. There is still time to volunteer to help. Please contact co-chairs Bob (AB9FB) or Joe (N9UX) if you're interested in helping out. Even if you can't help the whole day, we'd like to have you. A flyer is attached to this newsletter with details and a reservation

slip if you'd like to buy a table. Contact information is also on the flyer.

Let's make this years Swapfest as great as we can. The smoother it goes, the easier it is to get people to return next year. This can only be accomplished with your help. Hope to see you there.

MRC 2005 Co-Chairmen  
Bob (AB9FB), Joe (N9UX)

## A Note From the Awards Committee Chair

I have been asked by Bob AB9FB to be the Awards Committee Chairman this year, and I have accepted.

And, as it was 2 years ago, we the committee finds itself in the same position of having to choose who gets the awards. In the end, we are asking for your support.

The standard choices are for "The Friendly One" and "Community Service", but if you feel that another award is justified, we are open to all comments by our members.

You can reach me anytime via email at kb7qdi@yahoo.com and by phone at 414-507-8939.

73 de Dean KB7QDI

## A Note From Your Treasurer.

Nothing serious to report at this time. All the bills have been paid and the checkbook still balances. Hi Hi. Money is starting to come in for the swapfest next month and it is starting to look promising. A complete report will be available at the next meeting. See you there.

73's Your treasurer  
Tom Liebe WI9TOM --.

## Committees

ARES Net Coord	Jeananne	N9VSV
Awards	Dean	KB7QDI
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	Mark		KB9VJQ
Weather	Skip		WD9HAS
Co-Webmaster	Gary		N9UUR
Co-Webmaster	Richard		K9RWE

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## A Technical Note

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Recently the MRC Technical Committee visited Main Site and took care of some basic maintenance.

The initial attempt (Wednesday, August 24<sup>th</sup>) was foiled by an unexpected re-keying at Main Site. With a phone call to our tower management company and a rescheduling of the event, we were able to gain access. The event was rescheduled for the 31<sup>st</sup> of August. I thank everyone who was able to attend.

We replaced a cooling fan and an ammeter on the Henry amplifier. I'm very pleased to inform you that all the cooling fans on the Henry have been replaced within the last year. The temperature inside the building at Main Site can really climb on a hot summer day. After removal of the fan, we gave it a spin and could hear the fan's bearings making a growling sound. I don't think we got to that any too soon.

I have been making some progress working on an EchoLink interface and have invited the help of the Technical Committee. Dean KB7QDI has donated a computer to the EchoLink cause and has agreed to be the EchoLink Sysop. The EchoLink system may be activated and deactivated by password on a control frequency. The system interface has the ability to shut down and bring up EchoLink with priority over the EchoLink software. This is to ensure that regardless of what Windows is doing, we can maintain control of our repeater. Very few of the readily available interfaces that can be purchased today have this level of functionality. The level of security on our EchoLink system will be not unlike the security of our repeater's link sites.

Additional trips to Main Site have been made in more recent days. The Northwest receive site was shut down from the evening of Tuesday, September 20<sup>th</sup> to the evening of Wednesday, September 21<sup>st</sup>, while we figured out why we hadn't any audio on this link. The 16-pin accessory connector was reseated on the Northwest receiver and the trouble cleared. We are watching it very closely.

I'm excited by the enthusiasm I'm seeing from the ever-growing Technical Committee and am looking forward to additional good works to come!

Mark Zentner KB9VJQ,  
Vice President  
Technical Director

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## Nominating Committee

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I have been re-appointed Nominating Committee Chair for this year and I need your help. We try to reach all our club members by telephone, e-mail (or other private means), to ask the following questions: Would they like to run for club elective office or would they like to nominate someone else for club elective office. Can you help make these connections, in the next two months? Elections are at our January Meeting. The nominating report goes in the newsletter whose deadline is in early December. Volunteers for this committee would call between 10 and 20 people, depending on how many volunteers we have. If you would like to volunteer for this important work, contact me on 146.91- or leave a message on 414-444-4589. If you have been a volunteer in the past, don't be surprised to be asked to volunteer again.

Thank You! Warren K9IZV.

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## Reality Check

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At our last meeting Gary passed out FEMA readiness guides. I don't think any one of us had any idea of what would happen one month later. Think about this area. If there was a catastrophic event here, the size of hurricane Katrina, what would you do? Ever taken a trip to the Dells? If there was a comparable event here, that would not be far enough to escape the area of destruction. A couple of weeks ago we had a storm that knocked out power to 105,000 people in the metro area, some of them were without power for three days. While all of this is fresh in your mind, review the book and update your emergency plans. An ice storm followed by a two week cold snap is a very possible scenario for this area. How would you survive a week without power with the temperatures in the teens? Is your pantry stocked up? Don't forget about keeping the kids entertained. These are all things to think about.

If you had to evacuate, do you know how to drain the water pipes? Know where your gas and electric shutoffs are? What if you are at work and have to leave in a different direction from the rest of your family? How do you contact each other? Only when you and your family are safe and secure can you think about helping others.

Many of us would like to help with

communications in such an event; it's time to review your plans for emergency communications. Join your local ARES group if you haven't already. Check your radios and look over your portable operations setup. What about power? Batteries are a good start, but they only last so long. What is your backup plan? A generator? Solar? What about using the car to charge batteries? Think about plugging in your spare batteries whenever you have to drive in such a situation.

All of this sounds like a lot of work at first, but once you have a plan in place keeping stocked up and prepared can be worked into your regular routine. Regularly rotating through a well stocked pantry and keeping at least a half a tank of fuel in your vehicle should be normal. A little planning for stocking water for your family and surviving for a week or more is no big problem. If you did not get a readiness guide, the information is available online at

<http://www.ready.gov/index.html>

Have a safe and enjoyable day.

Mike K9MDJ

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## MRC Meeting Minutes July 30, 2005

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**Location:** Mayfair

**Attendees:** Bob (AB9FB), Mark (kb9VJQ), Mike (K9MDJ), Tom (WI9TOM) Plus sign-in list

Meeting called to order at 6:21PM by AB9FB

### President Bob (AB9FB)

Motion to accept the last meetings minutes: Motion by Maureen KB9VLJ second by Jim WK9N. Motion carried. Motion to accept new members: Motion by Dean KB7QDI second by KB9VLJ. Motion carried. New member calls are KF8IA, KC9EGH, WB9NDM, N9LOU, KB9FC, WW9R, KB9YXB, W9GDP, KC9HNU, WA9CDA, N9TBQ. Congratulations to the new members!

### Vice President Mark (KB9VJQ)

Gave an update on the progress of the echolink system. Has a weathertite cabinet that may be suitable for a portable repeater system. Mark is also the Technical Director, he passed around a sign-up sheet for anyone interested in helping with repeater maintenance. Mark also sees this as an

educational experience for anyone wishing to learn the mechanics of the repeater operation. All are welcome, and he can be contacted if you wish to help.

**Secretary Mike (K9MDJ)**

Gave an update on the inventory project. When this is finished it will be available for viewing by the membership.

**Treasurer Tom (WI9TOM)**

Gave the financial report. The club has \$9249.86 in all accounts and \$3095.31 in expendable funds. The complete report is attached.

**Activities Manager Matt (KC9COY) (Not present)**

Bob AB9FB stated that the picnic will be Sept 18, at Whitnall Park.

**Old Business**

Field Day: We had a total of 3642 points. 139 total participants; 69 Volunteers and 70 Visitors.

Dean has some Field Day shirts left over. Any money made on the shirts will go to the Field Day fund.

**New Business**

Ken KB9OBZ asked about the whereabouts of a laminator and an overhead projector that were previously donated to the club.

Don WA9ERI offered a motion to use the club call sign for the next Field Day, second by Bob AB9FB. Motion carried. Gary N9MGJ passed out FEMA readiness guides.

Adjourned at 7:31PM By AB9FB

Respectfully submitted:  
Michael D. Jones (K9MDJ)

**To Do List**

“ \* “ carried over from last meeting

**Newsletter...**

The MRC Newsletter is generally published 6 times per year (January, March, May, July, September, and October). The Newsletter deadline is 30 days prior to the date of the meeting. Send articles, reports, comments, and suggestions to Bob AA9JW or Heidi N9TUY Manak. Email aa9jw@amsat.org, Fax 208 247-9055 or ☎ 262 544-6151.

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

Expiration  
Date

Call sign \_\_\_\_\_ Name \_\_\_\_\_ 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 You!



The Milwaukee Repeater Club Presents... our 21st Annual Swapfest!

# AMATEUR RADIO Fest 2005

## HAM RADIO, COMPUTERS & ELECTRONICS

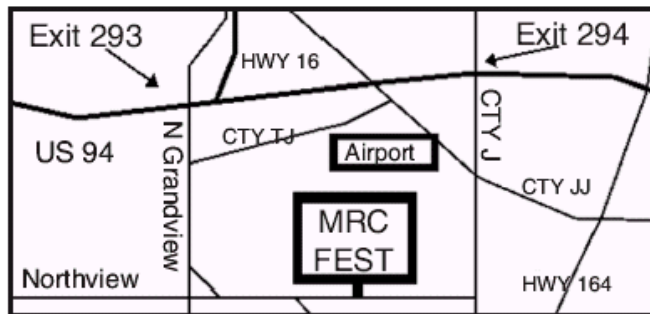
**Saturday October 29<sup>th</sup>, 2005**  
**8:00 am to 2:00 pm**

Waukesha County Expo Center Forum Buildings  
N1 W24848 Northview Rd., Waukesha Wisconsin

Admission: \$6.00

Tables: \$17.00 per 8' table      *Vendor Loadin*

Electricity: \$17.00                      *5:00 AM*



### AMATEUR RADIO & ELECTRONICS

New and used Ham and CB radios, batteries, antennas, scanners, test equipment, parts, connectors, electronic components, tubes, wire, coax, cable, switches, computers, software, and much more.

### PANCAKE BREAKFAST

**In The North Hall – Breakfast 7:00 to 9:00 am.**

Featuring our “Famous” breakfast Specials! Pancakes, eggs, sausage, orange juice, coffee and more!

**Food counter open all day** with hot dogs, brats and afternoon delights.

### TALK-IN

Talk-In will be on the MRC Repeater, 146.910, -offset, 127.3 PL

### For Further Information:

Browse our Web Page at: <http://www.mrc91.org>

Send us an e-mail at: [Swapfest@mrc91.org](mailto:Swapfest@mrc91.org)

Call Co-Swapfest Chairman Bob Albert (AB9FB) at: **414-526-7011**

**Vendor Reservation – Please Print**

# of Tickets: \_\_\_\_\_ x      \$6.00 = \_\_\_\_\_ (Each vendor must have an admission ticket)

# of 8' Tables: \_\_\_\_\_ x      \$17.00 = \_\_\_\_\_

Electricity: Each      \$17.00 = \_\_\_\_\_      Total \$ \_\_\_\_\_      *Vendor Loadin*  
*5:00 AM*

Company Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Call Sign \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City/State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: ( ) \_\_\_\_\_

e-mail Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Send your order and check payable to: Milwaukee Repeater Club / PO Box 2123, Milwaukee, WI 53201-2123  
Please enclose a SASE so your tickets can be mailed if ordering by October 15, 2005