

The Marinette and Menominee Amateur Radio Club

GROUND WAVE

Repeater Frequencies 147.00MHz & 444.075MHz

Club Net: Sunday 7PM 147.00MHz

Simplex DX Spotting and Ragchew Frequency 146.55

Web Page <http://w8pif.com>



Officers:

President: Jim Callow K8IR

Vice President: Valerie Hallam KC8WAI

Treasurer: Paul Drees WC9E

Secretary: Mark Erickson KD8ESH

The MMARC Newsletter

December 2007

CLUB CALENDAR...

December 9 Christmas Party
January 10 Club Meeting

DECEMBER MEETING...

There will be no regular club meeting in December, as we will be holding the Christmas Party on December 9th. There is one piece of business that needs to be conducted at the Christmas Party. The Club's liability insurance policy is up for renewal. The premium remains the same at \$320.00. The payment must be received by January 16th to have uninterrupted coverage. This should probably be taken care of in December so that the payment can be made in a timely manner.

CHRISTMAS PARTY...

Our Christmas Party will be held Sunday December 9th at Schusslers. The RSVP form was printed in the November Ground Wave. Please get your reservations in by December 3rd. We look forward to seeing you at Schusslers.

PAYING YOUR DUES...

The deadline is coming up to pay club dues for the current club year. The single membership remains at \$18.00, and a family membership is \$27.00. If you haven't already done so, you can pay the treasurer at the Christmas Party or send your check to M&M ARC, P.O. Box 1082, Marinette, WI 54143. December 31st is the deadline for dues payment. Those who haven't paid by that date will be removed from the club roster. Thanks to all those who have already paid.

HAM BREAKFAST AND VE SESSION SUCCESSFUL...

A ham breakfast was organized by KS8O, and held on Saturday November 24th at Schloegels in Menominee. A total of 20 hams and visitors attended. One came from Gaylord, Michigan, another from northern Illinois, and a couple from Green Bay, plus several family members. Good food and camaraderie was enjoyed by all. Following the breakfast, a W5YI VE session was held. Fritz KC8UHU successfully upgraded to General, and Mike Spice from Green Bay passed his Technician exam. Look for his call soon. More breakfasts are planned in the future.

RECORD CHECK IN NUMBERS FOR YOUTH NET...

The W-ide A-rea Y-outh Net (WAYnet) formerly the Tri County youth net, held its first net on the McAllister, Oconto Falls, Gaylord, MI linked repeater system Friday November 30th. Dallas KD8ESI was the net control and a new record was set with 26 check ins ranging from Gaylord, MI, to New London, Appleton, Green Bay, Wabeno, and the tri-county area. Even WX9GRB checked in from the Green Bay weather office as part of Skywarn Recognition Weekend.

The Youth net has moved permanently to the link system for greater range and to acquaint more hams with our youth programs. Gary, WD8DX from Gaylord has jumped on the YACHT bandwagon, and actively promoted the group and the net. In fact he is interested in starting up a second YACHT chapter in his area. Check out his website, and especially the revised YACHT page he has created. A link to it is on the M&M ARC site right at the beginning. Click on "YACHT #2" The original site created by KG8CX is still up. It looks like the YACHT ham program is getting some wide recognition with the wide area net, and the fact that many hams are hearing about us for the first time. Many compliments were given to Dallas for the way he conducted the

net, and the fact it is spotlighting and promoting youth activities.

YACHT members checking in were, in addition to Dallas KD8ESI --- KC9MBY Alex, KC9KVU Jackson, along with adult leaders of the team, KS8O, KG8CX, N9UPU, and WD8DX. Hopefully additional YACHT members and other area hams will find the net to be a stop-off on Friday evenings.

HAT TEAM PROJECTS...

On November 10th, the Ham Assistance Team repaired an antenna for Dallas, KD8ESI. Also on that date, Eric, KG9GH, the lead climber for the HAT Team, was called to assist Paul Blum, K9ARF, with antenna work for the 145.110 repeater located near Wabeno.

SURING REPEATER AT FULL STRENGTH...

Pete, AB9PJ, reports that the long awaited project involving the Northwoods Communications Repeater located in Suring, Wisconsin (formerly the K9ARF repeater from Crivitz/High Falls area) is now at the permanent location. The frequency is 145.470 with a tone of 114.8 both input and output or, as some would refer as, encode and decode. The Comprod 4-element (874F-70SMHD) antenna is now up at 550' above ground level. The repeater is a Motorola MSR-2000 (courtesy of Wisconsin Public Service & Paul K9ARF). This is an open repeater for all licensed operators to enjoy. Also, please be sure to join John (KB9VXJ) this Saturday and every Saturday evening at 8pm for the Yo-Yo net. Furthermore, signal reports are appreciated. Please let John or Pete know by emailing your report to either of the email addresses listed in the CC portion above. Please include your geographic location, power output and type of antenna with orientation if you would be so kind.

CLUB JACKETS AVAILABLE...

As Ed, KG8CX, mentioned at our last meeting, Image Works on 10th Avenue in Menominee has come up with a nice design for a club jacket.



Tracy Nemetz, mother of Alex, KC9MBY runs Image works. Here we see KG8CX modeling his jacket. The jackets run \$48, including the embroidery on the back, as well as your callsign on the front. Just tell Tracy your size and callsign, and she'll do the rest.

DX CONTEST...

As we approach the end of the year, a reminder that in January, the club voted to hold an intra-club competition to see how many countries can be worked during 2007. We are following the rules for the CQ Magazine DX Challenge. Rules are at: www.dxmarathon.com The competition involves how many countries and CQ Zones you can work in the calendar year. There are two categories, unlimited, and formula.

The formula category restricts you to either 10 watts, or 100 watts with restrictions on types of antenna. The formula category may appeal to those just getting into HF with modest antennas. We'll awarding plaques in both categories if there is sufficient interest. So get your logs in order and submit them after December 31st. Please note no QSLing is necessary for contacts in this competition. K8IR and AA9GZ have volunteered to judge the local competition. They'll be happy to address any questions you have.

MIDWINTER SWAPFEST...

The West Allis Radio Amateur Club will hold their Midwinter Swapfest on Saturday January 5th from 8am to 2pm at the Waukesha County Expo Center in Waukesha. Admission is \$4.00 in advance, and \$5.00 at the door. There will be amateur exams given across the street at the Waukesha Lanes. For more information, visit www.warac.org.

AND A MERRY CHRISTMAS TO ALL...

By Gary Pearce, KN4AQ

From the ARRL Website

'Twas the night before Christmas,
And all through 2 meters,
Not a signal was keying up
Any repeaters.

The antennas reached up
From the tower, quite high,
To catch the weak signals
That bounced from the sky.

The children, Tech-Pluses,
Took their H-Ts to bed,
And dreamed of the day
They'd be Extras instead.

Mom put on her headphones,
I plugged in the key,
And we tuned 40 meters
For that rare ZK3.

When the meter was pegged
By a signal with power.
It smoked a small diode,
And, I swear, shook the tower.

Mom yanked off her phones,
And with all she could muster
Logged a spot of the signal
On the DX *PacketCluster*,

While I ran to the window
And peered up at the sky,
To see what could generate
RF that high.

It was way in the distance,
But the moon made it gleam.
A flying sleigh, with an
Eight-element beam,

And a little old driver
Who looked slightly mean.
So I thought for a moment,
That it might be Wayne Green.

But no, it was Santa,
The Santa of Hams.
On a mission, this Christmas,
To clean up the bands.

He circled the tower,
Then stopped in his track,
And he slid down the coax
Right into the shack.

While Mom and I hid
Behind stacks of *CQ*,
This Santa of hamming
Knew just what to do.

He cleared off the shack desk
Of paper and parts,
And filled out all my late QSLs
For a start.

He ran copper braid,
Took a steel rod and pounded
It into the earth, till
The station was grounded.

He tightened loose fittings,
Resoldered connections,
Cranked down modulation,
Installed lightning protection. He neutralized tubes
In my linear amp.
(Never worked right before;
Now it works like a champ).

A new, lowpass filter
Cleaned up the TV.
He corrected the settings
In my TNC.

He repaired the computer
That would not compute,
And he backed up the hard drive
And got it to boot.

Then, he reached really deep
In the bag that he brought,
And he pulled out a big box.
A new rig? I thought!

A new Kenwood? An Icom?
A Yaesu, for me?!
(If he thought I'd been bad,
it might be QRP!)

Yes! The Ultimate Station!
How could I deserve this?
Could it be all those hours
that I worked Public Service?

He hooked it all up
And in record time, quickly
Worked 100 countries,
All down on 160.

I should have been happy,
It was my call he sent.
But the cards and the postage
Will cost two month's rent!

He made final adjustments,
And left a card by the key:
"To Gary, from Santa Claus.
73."

Then he grabbed his H-T,
Looked me straight in the eye,
Punched a code on the pad,
And was gone with no good-bye.

I ran back to the station,
And the pileup was big,
But a card from St. Nick
Would be worth my new rig.

Oh, too late, for his final
came over the air.
It was copied all over.
It was heard everywhere.

The Ham's Santa exclaimed
What a ham might expect,
"Merry Christmas to all,
And to all, good DX!"

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M&M Amateur Radio Club Meeting Minutes.

Meeting November 8th 2007

7:00pm The Pledge of Allegiance

- The Meeting was called to order by Mr. Jim Callow
- All members discussed their radio related activities since the last meeting.
- Secretary's report was approved as printed in The Ground Wave newsletter.
- Treasurer's report A new category has been created, an anonymous donor sent a check for \$100.00 for the HAT Team A discussion took place with input from HAT team Members.
- Communications: Mr. Callow received a survey from CUPPAD. CUPPAD is looking for regional radio direction finding teams. The Question was asked if The M&M ARC. Is proficient and available. The membership rose questions about what segments of the radio band would be needed? Levels of qualifications for type III work was also discussed. At this time membership is starting to discuss training events for the spring of 2008. Mr. Callow was going to respond to CUPPAD with this information.
- Net Report: Good participation, averaging mid to upper twenties each Sunday night.
- DAR Report: A donation from KB9DSV of a computer for the DAR was accepted. This was added to the Quarter Masters List.
- Quarter Master's report: Current as printed in the Club's Web page.
- Repeater Report The current issue of The Ground Wave has a good written explanation of issues that are being faced with the 147.000 repeater.. Eric (KG9GH) led a discussion with the membership regarding possible corrective actions. Eric and the membership wish to thank Mr. Bill Becks for his help with this repair and his advice. On this project. A very interesting and detailed discussion took place. At this time there was no motion or actions to be taken.
- HAT Report: The Oconto Falls Repeater antenna has been changed. It was restated that The HAT Team does not accept donations.
- QCWA Report: Dave said that the next meeting would be at the Old Country Buffet in Green Bay on November 10th.
- Old Business: Marinette County Board presentation on the Value of Amateur Radio During an emergency. Mr. Callow thought that he would be available, he was looking for additional support at the meeting. Christmas Party reservations must be turned in by December 3rd.
- New Business: License Classes. We will see what interest is, and look for volunteers to help with instruction. Possible early winter testing if interest warrants. Mr. Engleman passed a catalog around the room and talked about new jackets with the M&M ARC logo on them.. He asked for input from the membership.
- Fox Hunting Eric (KG9GH) presented a very informative discussion on Fox Hunting. The Membership wishes to thank Eric, you did a nice job..

- Members present at this meeting:

WC9E	KD8ESH	K8IR	K9GGV	K7PAM
K8ZLO	N0AWM	W8DXX	KG9GH	N9OSF
AA8UT	N5FVM	AA9GZ	KC8WJO	KG8CX
KC9FKE	W9JJC			

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The Meeting was adjourned at 835pm.

**M&M AMATEUR RADIO CLUB
P.O. BOX 1082
MARINETTE, WI 54143**