

The Marinette and Menominee Amateur Radio Club

GROUND WAVE

Repeater Frequencies 147.00MHz & 444.075MHz
Club Net: Sunday 7PM 147.00MHz

Web Page <http://w8pif.com>



Officers:

President: Jim Callow K8IR
Vice President: Pete Johnson, AB9PJ
Treasurer: Mike Lemke, KD8FUE
Secretary: Mark Erickson KD8ESH

The MMARC Newsletter

December 2011

CLUB CALENDAR...

Dec 8 Club Meeting NWTC RM 128
Jan 10th Ham Radio Introduction
Dar Boys and Girls Club
Jan 14 Christmas Party
United Methodist Church, Marinette

DECEMBER MEETING...

The December meeting will be held in Room 128 at NWTC at 7pm Thursday December 8th. We'll finalize plans for the January 14th Christmas Party and continue planning for ham radio classes this winter. We also have an excellent program, a DVD on the January 2011 South Orkney DXpedition, VP8ORK. The video is another excellent production of James Brooks, 9V1YC, and stars plenty of penguins as well as hams on a remote Antarctic Island. We know you'll enjoy it, so please join us for the last meeting of the year.

(AFTER) CHRISTMAS PARTY...

The M&M ARC Christmas party is scheduled for January 14th at the Fellowship Room at the United Methodist Church in Marinette. The menu will include ham (what else would you expect?), turkey breast, mashed potatoes and beans. The modest cost per person will be \$6.00. A reservation form will be mailed out after this month's meeting. There will be no regular club meeting in January.

CLUB PLANS TECHNICIAN CLASSES...

After an absence of several years, the club has decided to offer classes for the beginning ham license. Several area citizens have expressed an interest in getting their license. An introductory session to determine interest, individual schedules, and to offer exposure to ham radio is planned for Tuesday January 10th at 5:30pm in the radio room of the Menominee D.A.R. Boys & Girls club on 8th Ave. The facility closes at 6:30 so we will have about an hour to cover

some preliminary ground and look over what ham radio entails.

We can discuss class location possibilities, dates, time at the December meeting. Classes will probably begin in January.

Instructors are needed for various portions of the Technician material. If you can help out, let us know at the December meeting or contact Jim K8IR, or Ed KG8CX.

Pass the word to anyone, of any age that you feel might have an interest in obtaining a ham license.

SUNDAY EVENING NET AND NEW YEARS EVE CHAT-A-THON...

Our weekly nets have been doing very well with check-ins averaging 20 or more. The December 25th net will, however, be cancelled due to the Christmas holiday, and the fact the Packers play the Chicago Bears at 7:30pm. The December 18th net will be the final one for 2011, with the first net of 2012 on Jan. 1.

Our annual New Year's Eve ham chat will commence on Sat. Dec. 31 around 8pm.

Anyone can join in for however length of time you wish.

This is not a net, just a final time in 2011 to get together and discuss the year and anything else that you may wish to bring up. We've had as many as a dozen join us in past years, so if you have some time, and want to say good-bye to 2011 with other ham radio friends, tune in to the 147.000 repeater that evening.

IT'S TIME FOR TEN (METERS THAT IS)...

For those of you who have only been in the hobby for the past five or six years, you've probably only heard the stories of world-wide DX on 10 meters. When the sunspots are at the low end of the cycle, 10 is open only sporadically, mainly on North-South paths.

Well, after seemingly endless years of waiting for the sunspots to return, they are back, and 10 meters has returned to its fabled self. It doesn't take much antenna or power to work the world

on 10 when the sunspots are out. Even better, the solar disturbances have been minimal, resulting in some spectacular conditions this fall. Since the absorption is less at 28 MHz than on lower bands, you'll find a simple dipole or ground plane vertical and 100 watts or less is more than enough to work the world. Oh, and even Technicians have Phone Privileges on 10. The band opens up shortly after sunrise to Eastern Europe and the Caribbean. As the morning goes on, you'll find plenty of Europeans as well as Africa past noon. In the early afternoon, the Caribbean, Central and South America dominate. In the mid afternoon as the sun rises in the Pacific, you'll find Hawaii and New Zealand, plus Western Canada and Alaska. Later in the afternoon, the western Pacific islands and Japan pop up around 4pm. The band will go dead by about 6pm, but not before you get a chance at China and Asiatic Russia. It's like taking a trip around the world in a day. The CQ Worldwide CW contest was last weekend, and K8IR put 86 countries in the log in just over 9 hours, and the conditions were not as good as they have been on some days.

This coming weekend is the ARRL 10 Meter Contest which promises to be the best one in years. It runs from 6pm Friday through 6pm Sunday Central Time. You can work no more than 36 hours in that period. Multipliers include US States, Canadian Provinces, Mexican States, and Countries, so there are plenty of multipliers out there no matter where the band is open to. The exchange is simple, just signal report (always 5-9) and your state.

More details at: <https://www.arrl.org/10-meter>. So try to get on this weekend. You never know who in the world you might work.

By K8IR

**MERRY CHRISTMAS
AND A HAPPY NEW
YEAR FROM THE M&M
AMATEUR RADIO CLUB!**

Marinette and Menominee Amateur Radio Club Meeting 11-10-11.

- 7PM the Club Meeting was called to order. The Club President led the membership in the Pledge of Allegiance.
- The Membership discussed their radio related activities/projects since the last club meeting.
- Secretary's Report: Approved by the membership as printed.
- Treasure's Report: Approved as printed in The Ground Wave. Total cash available as of 11-10-11 is \$1,355.46
- Communications: Request for renewal was received from the Wisconsin Repeater Directory. The W8PIF repeater is also listed in the Michigan Directory.
- NET and DAR Report: KG8CX reported that check-ins have been averaging 20+ per week. Interest in the K8DAR program remains good. January will be six years with the DAR radio room program.
- Repeater Committee: The Repeater seems to be performing well since the tone has been deprogrammed. A water leak by an equipment line on the roof of The Harbors damaged some electrical equipment. Our 444.075 equipment was not damaged, and the roof was repaired.
- HAT Team: Weather is becoming the limiting condition for outdoor projects. Please contact AB9PJ with any requests for help with radio projects.
- QCWA Report: The last meeting was held at the Fox Cities Ham Fest. W8DXX reported that a topic of discussion was an Associate Membership. He reminded the Club about the QCWA. Monthly Net on the second Saturday at 4pm on 3838 kHz. All are welcome.
- Old Business: The Christmas party is scheduled for January 14th. It is confirmed for the Fellowship Room. Menu to include Ham, Turkey breast, mashed potatoes and beans. Cost per person for this years Christmas party will be \$6.00.
- New Business: A discussion about Amateur Radio License Classes took place. Interest and possible dates were discussed. More information will be discussed at the December Club meeting.
- Members present at the 11-10-11 meeting:
W8DXX KD8OVR KD8FUE KG8CX W8NCC K8IR K9GGV KB9NNW
WC9E AB9PJ AC8IO AB9QC N5FVM KD8ESH
- Also present at this meeting: Taylor Johnson, Beth St.Louis, Tom Boice.
- The next Club meeting will be held December 8th in room 128 at NWTC in Marinette.
- A motion for adjournment was made by AC8IO; this motion was supported by AB9PJ. This motion passed unopposed at 9:05pm, 11-10-11.
- Submitted by KD8ESH.

**M&M AMATEUR RADIO CLUB
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