

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: Bob Schrader AA9GZ

Treasurer: Paul Drees WC9E

Secretary: Valerie Hallam KC8WAI

The MMARC Newsletter

February 2007

CLUB CALENDAR...

February 8	Regular meeting
February 10	License Classes Start
February 24	VE Session
March 8	Regular meeting
March 25	Breakfast on the Farm
April 12	Regular meeting
April 15	Charter Night Banquet
August 19	Picnic

FEBRUARY MEETING...

The February meeting of the M&M ARC will be held at 7:00pm Thursday February 8th at Spies Public Library in Menominee. We hope you can attend.

MORSE TESTING ENDS...

With the publication of new rules in the Federal Register, it's official: Morse Code testing will end on February 23rd. The M&M ARC VE team will hold a testing session on Saturday February 24th

at the Twin County Airport terminal starting with registration at 9:30am, and testing at 10:00am. Those who have valid CSCE certificates for element 3, the General written test, can attend the session and do the paperwork to get their General Class license. You will have to pay the \$14 VE session fee to get the paperwork submitted. Contact Paul, WC9E with any questions concerning the testing session.

NEW TECH PRIVILEGES...

Starting February 23rd, all Technician Class licensees will gain the HF privileges formerly reserved for those who passed the 5 WPM code test. All Techs will be able to operate phone and CW on 10 meters in the 28.3 to 28.5 MHz segment, and CW and RTTY/Data from 28.0 to 28.3 MHz. In addition, Techs will have CW privileges in the General CW allocations on 80, 40, and 15 meters: 3.525-3.600 MHz, 7.025-7.125 MHz, and 21.025-21.200 MHz. Techs are limited to 200 watts PEP on all their HF allocations. We hope our Techs will take advantage of their new privileges.

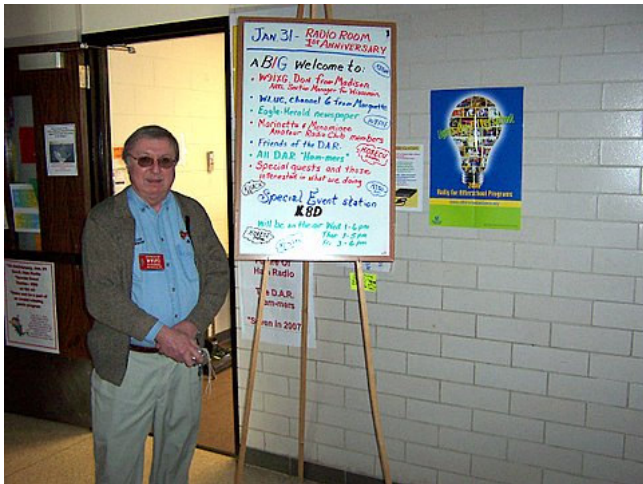
CELEBRATING ONE YEAR AT THE DAR...

It's been a busy and exciting week at the DAR Boys and Girls Club radio room as we celebrate the first anniversary of the DAR program.



Ken, N0AWM solders the feedpoint of the new 80-meter loop at the DAR. W9DWG assists, K8IR tries to stay warm

On Saturday, January 27th, the HAT team installed an 80 meter loop antenna on the roof of the DAR. This antenna will give the DAR station 80/75 meter and 40 meter capabilities, and along with the existing R7 antenna, the ability to run two HF stations simultaneously. The radio room now has one VHF and two HF operating positions.



Don Michalski, W9IXG visits the DAR Radio Room

On Wednesday January 31st, the DAR special event station K8D took the air, and made 75 contacts over the next three days. A special guest on the first day of the K8D operation was

Wisconsin ARRL Section Manager Don Michalski, who drove up from Madison to see the DAR station for himself. Don has given a lot of publicity to the DAR program over the past year through his website and monthly section reports. Don, we appreciate you taking the time to visit us in person.



Dallas, KD8ESI, being interviewed by TV6

Also in attendance was a reporter from TV6 Marquette, who taped a segment that was broadcast on the TV6 5pm news on Friday February 2nd. If you missed the broadcast, we have it on CD, and will try to show it at the February meeting.

It's been a great first year at the DAR, and we hope for even bigger things in 2007.

LICENSE CLASSES BEGIN FEB 10TH...

The M&M ARC will begin license classes on Saturday February 10th at 9:30am at Spies Public Library. The focus of the classes will be people seeking the Technician license, but anyone wishing to upgrade to General or Extra is also welcome. Several members of the club will share instructor duties. The Gordon West book will be used as the text, and will be available for purchase for \$19.00. Plans are to try to cover the material over 4 sessions, February 10th and 17th, and March 3rd and 10th. There will be no class on February 24th due to the VE session scheduled for that day. Another VE session is planned at the end of the class schedule. Contact K8IR or

KG8CX if you have any questions, or would like to attend the classes, either as a student or as an instructor.

HAM OF THE YEAR...

It's time to select the Ham of the Year for 2006. The award goes to a club member who has made significant contributions to club activities and ham radio during 2006. Any club member is eligible for the award. Nominations will be taken at the February meeting, or you can send your nomination to the club's P.O. box. There is a form in this Ground Wave. We'll publish the names of the nominees in the March Ground Wave, and the vote will be at the March 8th meeting. The honoree will receive their plaque at the Charter Night Banquet on April 15th.

CHARTER NIGHT AND PICNIC DATES...

This year's Charter Night Banquet will be held Sunday April 15th at the Best Western Riverfront Inn. We had hoped to get a Saturday date, but could not secure an open room. Rich Crevier, Director of the DAR Boys and Girls Club will present the program. Details and a reservation form will be printed in the March Ground Wave.

The annual club picnic will be held Sunday August 19th at the third pavilion at Henes Park in Menominee. This is the same weekend on which we held the picnic last year.

THE REPEATERS...WHAT NEXT?

2006 was a big year for the club's 147.000 repeater. After years of degraded performance from wind noise, a new antenna and transmission line were installed on the Range Line tower, and the repeater has been performing very well. The 444 machine at the hospital has also for the most part been performing well. The good news is there is nothing we need to be immediately looking at for repairs.

The repeater committee met recently to discuss the future. A number of ideas have been discussed.

It was agreed that the next project to look at is replacing the mount for the 444 antenna on the hospital roof. The current mount is showing significant rust, and we feel it needs to be replaced soon. We're looking at a mount that would not have to pierce the rubberized roof, a frame that could be held down by cement blocks. The antennas on the DAR roof are mounted in this fashion, and have survived well. This should be a low-cost project.

The committee believes the weak link in the 147 repeater system is the duplexer, which has required some attention in the past. We're probably looking at a cost over \$1000, so we'll need to do some fundraising or wait for the repeater fund to accumulate before moving on this.

A number of possible upgrades were discussed, including increasing the transmit power to get better building penetration, updating the basic repeaters to more recent models, and updating the controllers on one or both of the repeaters, which would allow us to add features like voice ID and announcements, IRLP, APRS, linking, autopatch, etc.

We need to know your thoughts as to what direction you'd like us to take, or not take, with regards to the club repeaters. Please contact any of the repeater committee members, including AB9PJ, KG9GH, KG8CX, KD8CHL, and K8IR.

DX CONTEST...

With recent licensing changes, more and more of our members are likely to test the waters on HF. It was suggested we hold an intra-club competition to see how many countries can be worked during 2007. At the January meeting, the club voted to award a plaque to the winner. We will follow the rules for the CQ Magazine DX Challenge, and you can also enter that contest. Rules are at: <http://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.

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.

The ARRL DX Contests coming up on February 17th for CW, and March 3rd for Phone, are good opportunities to get on and work a lot of countries and zones. You'll be amazed at how easy it is to work some of the "big gun" contest stations. So have fun and "Good DX".

BREAKFAST ON THE FARM...

Dave, W9DWG has announced plans for the second annual Breakfast on the Farm at Goddard's Maple Syrup refinery off Highway P on 13th Road just east of Beaver on Sunday March 25th. It was a very enjoyable event last year, and we're looking forward to it again. Dave says he is looking for some help from club members to help prepare the food on Saturday and help cook, sell tickets, and perform parking detail on the Sunday of the event. We'll discuss it

more at the February meeting, and have additional details in the March Ground Wave.

SURING REPEATER...

AB9PJ reports the Suring repeater is now on the air at 145.470. The Crivitz repeater on this frequency will be taken down soon. The Suring machine uses a PL of 114.8, so you'll need to reprogram your radio to access the new system. Even with a temporary antenna at about 260 feet, the system is getting out well. A new, higher antenna will be installed by the HAT team later this year.

U.P. HAM DIRECTORY UPDATED...

Once again the CCRAA will be publishing the U.P. Ham Directory for 2007. With only 100 being printed this year, and the price of \$5.00/copy there are going to be a limited number available.

They are taking orders now, and you can reserve yours by simply dropping George Thurner, W8FWG a line and letting him know how many you would like to reserve?

They will be available in late April at the Chassell Swap-N-Swap or can be mailed. E-Mail George at: w8fwg@arrl.net .

MINUTES OF THE M&M ARC

11 January 2007

Call to order
Pledge to the Flag
Introductions

Secretary. Accepted as printed in the Ground Wave
Treasurer. Accepted as printed in the Ground Wave.

We now have 54 members with new member Mark Erickson

Communications:

Thank You from: Stephenson Library \$100.00 donation
Spies Library \$100.00 donation

M/M Yacht club. Do we want to use the facility this summer? Yes, in July..... as June will be a cook out at Henes Park and Aug. will be the Club Picnic

e-mail from Don Conant, he has a Yaesu radio to be donated to the club.

Scholarships from the Amateur Radio Foundation

Pete and Diann were interested in applying

AES Milwaukee SuperFest Friday March 30 2-7 pm and Saturday March 31
8:30- 3pm
NO Admission Charge

REPORTS:

Ed: net averages 26 check-ins every Sunday.

Dar Report

DAR radio program will celebrate ONE year anniversary Wed. Jan.31, 3-6 pm
Don Michalski, ARRL Section Manager from Madison will be up for the Special Event Station
Also Thursday starting at 1pm and Friday from 3-6pm
KS8O has contacted Channel 5 to come up and video the event.
Bill Gerber will be up from Michigan.
National Awards Rep. DAR Radio Club Project
Eric requested reimbursement for \$80.00 spent for four support masts for the DAR antenna.
Ed motion to pay
Bob J second
Passed

Quartermaster:

All is listed on the web site
J-pole antennas made by Charlie and Eric wish to donate them to new HAMS. Brendan has one up and the other is to go to Dallas.

Repeater Committee:

Move the stand off kit to the inside of the tower.
E-mail from KS8O: upgrade the system 440&2M duplexer the equipment is 30 years old.
Suggestion: fix the antenna on the hospital by bracing with cement blocks.
Suggestion from Bob K8RJ if we replace to replace with commercial grade equipment that will last
Jim K8IR suggestion: club buy its own test equipment. There will be an article in Ground Wave asking for comments then the committee will decide.

HAT Team

80M loop up at Jason's done by Pete, Jim..KS8O, Eric.
80M loop to be installed at DAR K8D
6M repeater down

Fund raising: Charlie,

Hot dogs brats at Angelis
Waterfront booth \$375.00 in August plus a Health Dept. Certificate
Pasties make for \$3.00 sell for \$5.00
Time needed...chop vegs. make crust, bake
Sell Thurs.4-10 pm
Fri. 4-10pm
Sat. 10am-11pm
Sun. 10am-8pm

Old Business:

Insurance quote from the Marsh Group \$320.00. Pete to cover cost this year.

Liabilities covered:

Picnic, Christmas party, HAT, DAR Waterfront, any club activity.

Ken asked about the advisability of incorporating the club.

Buy insurance..Jim V, second, Diann vote unanimous

License classes:

Sat. am Feb.3 Tech,General Extra and code will be offered. 4 weeks? Fri. and Sat. classes?

Quarter Century Club Dave ...closest Manitowoc & Escanaba Menominee would be in the middle.

Charter Night April 14 Best Western Get your Ham of the Year nominations in February meeting will vote in March.

Picnic will be August 12 or 19 3rd Pavillion at Henes Park

New Family Membership:

Mark, Liz, and Nora Erickson

Vote Pete second Ed unanimous

KS8O suggestion to sponsored local DX contest using CQ DX marathon rules. 1-year period give award with local judging.

Need a committee to judge: Jim K8IR & Bob S AA9GZ

Plaque for the winner. Motion Diann & Pete

Dave W9DWG March 25 10am Breakfast on the farm Needs help on Fri. and with parking on Sat. The farm is East of Beaver Directions will be given.

Adjourn Motion by Charlie and Joey

Those in attendance:

Valerie Hallam	KC8WAI	Jim Callow	K8IR
Bob Jaruntowski	K8RJ	Paul Sorensen	NS8V
Paul Drees	WC9E	Eric Janssen	KG9GH
Pam Croy	K7PAM	Don Conant	N9GRK
Tearlach Sinclair	KD8CHL	Brian Mentch	KC8VEY
Pete Johnson	AB9PJ	Larry Buchholz	N9OSF
Floyd Croy	K8ZLO	Allan Grenier	N9QAA
Ed Engleman	KG8CX	Joe Callow	W9JJC
Diann Hallam	KC9III	Dallas Blair	KD8ESI
Ken Exworthy	N0AWM	Tyler Lehman	KC9FKE
Bob Schrader	AA9GZ	Gene Voelker	K9GGV
Jim Voss	KC8WJO	Mark Erickson	KD8ESH

Guests

Nora Erickson

Dakota Johnson

Chance Johnson

TREASURERS REPORT BY PAUL, WC9E

As of January 30, 2007:

DAR	\$99.09
Repeater Fund	\$333.54
Checking	\$1066.54
Savings	\$687.03
Total	\$1753.57

AGENDA for M & M AMATEUR RADIO CLUB
January 11, 2007

1. Call meeting to order

2. Pledge of Allegiance

3. Recognize guests and/ or new members

Members introduce themselves with their call sign and talk about their HAM Radio activities in the past month. DX Stations worked, Antenna Projects, Contests worked, etc.

4. Approve Secretary's report as printed in the Ground Wave

5. Treasurer's Report (Paul)

6. Communications to read (any club officer)

7. Net report (Ed)

8. DAR Project Report (Ed)

9. Quartermaster Report (Ed)

10. Repeater Committee Report (Pete)

11. HAT Report (Pete)

12. Fundraising Committee Report (Charlie)

13. Old Business

- Insurance
- License Classes
- VE Session
- Charter Night
- Picnic
- Ham of the Year
- Breakfast on the Farm
- QCWA

14. New Business...

- Field Day
-
-

15. Announcements/ Raffle

16. Adjournment

16. Program ?

2006 HAM OF THE YEAR NOMINATION FORM:

I nominate _____ call _____ for Ham of the Year for the following reasons:

Take to a meeting, or mail to:
M & M Amateur Radio Club
P. O. Box 1082
Marinette, WI 54143

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