

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: Bob Schrader AA9GZ
Treasurer: Paul Drees WC9E
Secretary: Mark Erickson KD8ESH

The MMARC Newsletter

February 2009

CLUB CALENDAR...

February 12th Club meeting Spies
March 6th Fish Fry
March 12th Club Meeting Spies
March 15th Wisconsin QSO Party
March 24th WX Spotter Training
St. Norbert College
April 3-4 AES Superfest
April 9th Club Meeting
April 19th Michigan QSO Party
May 14th Club Meeting Spies
May 15-17 Dayton Hamvention
June 11th Club Meeting Henes
June 27-28 Field Day

FEBRUARY MEETING...

The February meeting will be held at 7pm on Thursday February 12th. Besides celebrating Lincoln's Birthday, we will discuss topics

including the upcoming Fish Fry, QSO Parties, License classes, the repeater, and Field Day.

MEMBERSHIP...

This is a final reminder that dues for the current year were due by December 31st. We currently have 48 paid-up members. You can check the membership roster on the KG8CX/MMARC website at w8pif.com. If you haven't yet paid them, please do so at the meeting, or send them to the P.O. Box. The cost is the same as last year, \$18 for individuals, and \$27 for families. We appreciate your continued support of the M&M ARC. This will be the last Ground Wave sent to those who haven't renewed for 2008-2009.

FISH FRY...

Bob AA9IB has arranged the date for the Fish Fry as Friday March 6th at Little River Country Club on Shore Drive, Marinette. We usually

gather around 5pm to order and socialize, and are eating by 6pm. Please let Bob or Paul, WC9E know if you plan to attend by March 2nd so we can have a head count. We hope you will join us for an enjoyable meal.

WEATHER SPOTTER TRAINING...

The last few days have signaled that the winter may not last forever. Spring, and the beginning of storm season will soon be here. The Green Bay NWS office is busy scheduling Storm Spotter Training. There will be a session on Tuesday March 24th at Boyle Hall, Room 122 on the St. Norbert College Campus in DePere beginning at 7pm. This has been a popular event for some of our members, since there have not been any local Storm Spotters classes from the Green Bay Office in a few years. So far, nothing is scheduled by the Marquette NWS office. For the latest Spotter information, check into the bi-monthly Tri County Weather Spotters Net on the 146.880/146.835 linked repeaters at 7:30pm on Mondays. The next session will be February 16th.

YACHT NEWS...

The Echolink International Youth Net continues to set new records. Saturday February 7th's net attracted 26 checkins, including 13 from South Africa, and one from London, England.

The Echolink International Youth Net is held at 1700 UTC (11am Central) on Echolink Node 44407. Echolink can be accessed through the K9KJM 444.000 Repeater in Sturgeon Bay, or through the Internet via your computer.

ARRL NEWS...

JUDGE RULES IN FAVOR OF AMATEUR IN PALMDALE ANTENNA SUPPORT STRUCTURE CASE.

On Friday, February 6, Los Angeles Superior Court Judge David Yaffe issued a ruling in favor

of Alec Zubarau, WB6X, of Palmdale, California, in Zubarau's case against the City of Palmdale. Last year, after Zubarau received a valid building permit from the City to erect an antenna support structure, the City of Palmdale revoked Zubarau's building permit after he had erected the tower. According to Zubarau's attorney, Len Shaffer, WA6QHD, the Court's ruling invalidates the actions of the City in revoking Zubarau's permit and requires the City to allow him to replace the tower. "Zubarau's case has drawn nationwide attention and financial support from the ARRL, Amateur Radio clubs and individual Amateur Radio operators from around the country," said ARRL Southwestern Division Vice Director Marty Woll, N6VI. "Although this ruling does not directly address the City's proposed zoning ordinance amendment, based on the Court's language, it should provide considerable support for those hams attempting to negotiate a more reasonable provision allowing antenna support structures in the Palmdale City Code."

ARRL EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE ISSUES MOBILE AMATEUR RADIO OPERATION POLICY STATEMENT...

On January 30, at the instruction of the Board of Directors at its January 2009 meeting, the ARRL Executive Committee adopted a policy statement on mobile Amateur Radio operations. The statement addresses the growing number of proposed state and local laws and ordinances regulating the use of cellular telephone and text messaging, inadvertently affecting Amateur Radio mobile communications.

In its statement, the Executive Committee urges state and municipal legislators to limit the scope of their proposals, limiting them to devices such as full duplex wireless telephones and related hand-held or portable equipment. Alternately, it suggests that licensed Amateur Radio operation be listed specifically as an exclusion to the proposed regulations.

"At the start of each new session, you see a

flurry of this type of proposal in state legislatures across the country," said ARRL Regulatory Information Manager Dan Henderson, N1ND.

As of February 1, 2009, Henderson said that the ARRL is aware of proposals in 11 states: Georgia, Hawaii Idaho, Illinois, Iowa, Maine, Montana, Texas, Utah, Virginia and Wyoming, as well as several local city or town proposals.

"These proposals are usually intended to regulate telephone and text messaging by drivers as a matter of safety but, when they are written in very broad terms, can include Amateur Radio mobile operations in the 'net' they cast," Henderson continued. "The Executive Committee's policy statement gives a good, concise background of the role the Amateur Service plays in public safety and service communications. It also highlights the differences between communications conducted by cellular telephone and those using Amateur Radio. Finally, the statement offers some suggested statutory language for state motor vehicle codes which would protect Amateur Radio mobile operation."

The ARRL recognizes that driver inattention is a leading cause of automobile accidents. The

policy statement raises the fact that cell phones utilize full duplex communications -- where the user is talking and listening simultaneously. The Executive Committee statement says "Two-way radio use is dissimilar from full-duplex cellular telephone communications because the operator spends little time actually transmitting; the time spent listening is more similar to, and arguably less distracting than listening to a broadcast radio, CD or MP3 player. There are no distinctions to be made between or among Amateur Radio, public safety land mobile, private land mobile or citizen's radio in terms of driver distraction. All are distinguishable from mobile cellular telephone communications in this respect."

The ARRL Policy Statement also recognizes the responsibility of the amateur community to conduct its activities in a manner that does not create unsafe operation of their motor vehicle. "Safety has to be a top concern at all times," Henderson concluded.

The ARRL Policy Statement can be found on the web at, <http://www.arrl.org/govrelations/MobileAmateurRadioPolicyStatement.pdf>.

AGENDA for M & M AMATEUR RADIO CLUB February 12, 2009

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. QCWA Report (Dave)**

13. Old Business

- Fish Fry
- License Classes
- QSO Parties
- Field Day
-

14. New Business...

- DAR Ad
- Repeater Trustee

15. Announcements/Raffle

16. Adjournment

17. Program

• M & M Amateur Radio Club Meeting 1-8-2009 By KD8ESH

- 7pm The Club Meeting is called to order. The Club President led the membership in the Pledge of Allegiance.
- The Membership discussed their radio activities/projects since the last meeting.
- Secretary's Report: Approved as printed.
- Treasure's Report:

Savings account balance	\$648.85
Checking account balance	\$786.54
Total	\$1,343.09
- Insurance has been paid for this year.
- Communications: The Foundation for Amateur Radio notified the Club that they are accepting applications for the scholarship programs for the academic year 2009-2010. One e-mail was received from Pete Johnson regarding the use of the VHF portion of the M&M ARC's 444.075 antenna. Mr. Beck (WA8WG) spoke to the Membership about this request. The request is to install and operate a small low power radio and yagi to point back to the McAllister 146.880 repeater site. This would allow all spotters to have access to the Skywarn weather nets and activations. Mr. Engleman (KG8CX) made a motion to allow this system as purposed to be installed on the M & M Amateur Radio Clubs 444.075 Repeater Antenna. Support was provided by KS8O... Many questions were asked by the membership about the system design.. This motion carried unanimously.
- NET Report: Mr. Engleman reported 26 check ins last week. Repeater issues will be discussed later. Mr. Engleman reminded the membership about the upcoming Y.A.C.H.T. team article in the March issue of CQ magazine. The membership was reminded that the AES. Superfest is approaching soon, and the Y.A.C.H.T. team will have a booth in a prominent place close to the ARRL. Booth.

- DAR Report: Mr. Engleman reports good activity in the radio room. Students have also used the spotting network for making contacts. Mr. Pearson talked about how the Y.A.C.H.T. has developed and grown in its relatively short existence. He asked the membership to help spread the word about this group of young Amateur Radio Operators, and to consider talking to others about helping with the financial stewardship of this organization.
- Quartermaster's Report: Current as listed on the Club's web page. Ed would like to get the model and serial numbers from the new duplexers to up date the Club's records.
- Repeater Committee. We have good coverage. Occasional scratching interference exists. Mr. Bill Beck addressed the membership regarding this topic. Both transmit and receive are on the same antenna. A very technical discussion about desensitization took place. Mr. Beck made several observations about the design of the tower, and the positioning and the location of the antenna itself. A considerable discussion about moving the antenna away from the near by guy points for the tower took place. After the technical discussion, a motion was made by KS80 to table this discussion until another meeting night. Support was given by N0AWM. This motion carried unanimously.
- HAT Team: A couple of small local projects are on the docket. This is the time to talk to this group about submitting projects for when the weather permits climbing.
- QCWA Report: Dave (W8DXX) reported that the QCWA. Will have a forum at the Dayton Ham Vention this year. He also reminded the membership about the Net on the first Saturday of the month at 4pm (3825Hz)
- New Business: Mr. Engleman brought up the fact that December 28th of this year the M & M ARC will be an ARRL affiliated Club for 60 years. His question to the membership was how do we celebrate this milestone? Membership thought that a fish fry some time in March would be a nice treat. Details will be finalized at the next meeting. Mr. Beck has volunteered to serve as the Emergency Coordinator for the Ares/Races groups. He asked for everyone's help and understanding with his stepping into this position. KG8CX brought up that Weather Spotter Training sessions will soon be scheduled. Several members brought up training for contesting. A discussion took place regarding Field Day 2009. Questions were raised about building/developing a very active Club station for this year. The membership wanted to continue this discussion next month. W8DXX brought in several items to be raffled. Thank you Mr. Arnold for the donation to the M & M ARC.
- Members present for this meeting:
 - WC9E AA9GZ KG8CX KC9FKE KC9NWW KS8O N5FVM W8DXX
 - K9GGV N0AWM WA8WG KC9III KD8IGH AB9PJ KD8ESH
- The Meeting was adjourned at 8:25pm January 8th 2009.

TREASURERS REPORT 1/31/09 By WC9E

Checking	\$824.85
Savings	\$694.24
Total	\$1519.09

**M&M AMATEUR RADIO CLUB
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