

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

February-March 2008

CLUB CALENDAR...

March 7th Fish Fry LRCC
March 9th Wisconsin QSO Party
March 13th Meeting Spies Library
March 28-29 AES Superfest
April 10th Meeting Spies Library
April 12th ARRL MI Youth Forum @ Gaylord
April 14th Weather Spotters Training
April 19th Michigan QSO Party
June 28-29th Field Day
August 17th Club Picnic Henes Park

APOLOGIES FROM YOUR EDITOR...

As you can see from the masthead, this is a combined February-March issue of the Ground Wave. Your editor has been extremely busy with his day job, as well as shoveling snow and following W9JJC to soccer and basketball games. As a result, the February issue never got written. Hopefully things will slow down a bit,

at least as far as shoveling snow, and the Ground Wave will get out on time. But if there are any aspiring editors or assistant editors who would like to help out with or take over the newsletter, please let me know. Jim, K8IR

FISH FRY...

At our January meeting, it was decided to not do a formal charter night banquet this year, but instead hold a club Fish Fry. Paul, WC9E, has made arrangements to hold the Fish Fry at Little River Country Club in Marinette on Friday evening, March 7th. We'll gather at 5:30pm to order, and will be eating by 6:30pm. RSVP's are appreciated so we can give Little River a head count. Let Paul know if you can make it by Wednesday March 5 if possible. We'll be ordering off the menu. We hope you can join us for a pleasant get-together.

MARCH MEETING...

The March meeting will be held at 7pm on Thursday March 13th at Spies Library in Menominee. We hope the weatherman will cooperate this time. We'll do the voting for the Ham of the Year, something we put off last month due to the low turnout after a snowy day. We also need to start some planning for Field Day. We hope you can make it.

HAM OF THE YEAR...

Ham of the Year nominations have been received for two of our members. Eric, KG9GH, a past winner of the award, was nominated twice, mainly for his outstanding efforts as the lead climber on the HAT Team. John, KB9VXJ, was also nominated as a promoter of ham radio, taking net control whenever asked, working on the HAT team when they do projects in Door County, and for his donations to the DAR and Young Hams. We'll vote for ham of the year at the March 13th meeting. Those who cannot make the meeting may get their sealed votes to K8IR at the Fish Fry, or by other means prior to the March 13th meeting.

LICENSE CLASSES, NEW HAMS AND UPGRADES...

At our beginning license class session, February 2nd at the Stephenson Public Library, five prospective hams showed up. One candidate was Hunter Mans of Menominee age 9, who is hoping to be the 3rd generation of ham radio operator in the Mans family of hams...grandpa Al, KG9BI; grandma Sally, KB9IMX; uncle Jim, AA9PB; and his dad John, N8YWB.

This year we're using different approach, pairing up students with elmers for study. We plan to have a cram session/VE testing session in the next few weeks when the students are ready. . In the meantime, each candidate has access to an Elmer who will help them with any

questions. They are all using the ARRL Technician book.

We are pleased to report two of the five have already successfully passed their tests. Leon Brault, KC9MXL, of Marinette passed his technician test at a VE session on February 5th at Stephenson Public Library. He lives just behind AA9IB, and adds to the ham population in that part of Marinette. He is out of town until early March, but has a rig ready to go when he returns.

John Browy of Marinette aced his Technician test at a W5YI VE session held March 1st. John even took a stab at the General Test, but came up a little short this time. Congratulations to both Leon and John, We hope to hear you on the air soon!



KD8ESI, John Browy, and KC9FKE

Also congratulations to a couple of our younger hams, Tyler, KC9FKE, and Dallas, KD8ESI, who both passed their Extra Exams on March 1st with flying colors! At age 12, Dallas is our youngest Extra ever.

WEATHER SPOTTER TRAINING...

There's still a couple of feet of snow on the ground, but it is March, and the severe weather season isn't that far off. The Marquette National Weather Service office will be holding Weather Spotter training in Menominee on April 14th at 7pm . The number participating in

the past couple of years has grown so that the EOC is too crowded to use. An alternate site is being sought. We'll update you next month.

The Green Bay weather service office will be holding spotter training in Boyle Hall at St. Norbert College in De Pere on March 25th at 7pm. Many of our local spotters like to attend both the Marquette and Green Bay led sessions, since they each offer a little different approach.

Speaking of spotter training, the National Weather Service has a short online presentation on improving the quality of spotter reports. You can access it at:

<http://www.wdtb.noaa.gov/modules/spotters/player.html>

Ed, KG8CX plans to resume the Tri-County Skywarm Spotters Net on Monday March 31st at 7:30pm on the link repeater system (146.880/146.835).

YOUTH FORUM...

The 1st youth forum for Michigan youth ham radio operators is on target for Saturday April 12 in Gaylord, Michigan. The event will be held at Mount Hope Church, 1672 M-32 East in Gaylord. Many exciting activities are being planned, such as a special event station, satellite contacts, CAP and emergency communications, and more. Interaction and discussion with other young hams and clubs throughout Michigan is also scheduled. KG8CX, KS8O, and some of our YACHT members are already making plans to attend. We will pass along some of the success we've seen up here to others downstate, and in turn, pick up suggestions on making ham radio even better and enjoyable for all young hams.

YOUTH NETS

There are plenty of opportunities for young hams to get together on the air. The Wide Area Youth Net is held on Friday evening at 7:30pm

on the link repeater system: 146.880 McAllister - 146.835 Oconto Falls - 147.120 Gaylord. The EchoLink Youth Net (EYN) is held on Sundays at 6pm on the 444.000 Sturgeon Bay repeater - K9KJM-1 node #44407 and reaches the whole country, and the world. Older hams are invited to check in and support the efforts of the young hams.

HAT TEAM

2007 was another productive year for the Marinette & Menominee Amateur Radio Club's Ham Assistance Team. The team completed 38 projects for hams and clubs in Northern Wisconsin and the Michigan Upper Peninsula. This is pretty remarkable! A schedule for 2008 projects has been started. Contact Pete, AB9PJ, if the HAT Team can help you with a project.

DX CHALLENGE

A year ago, the club decided to have a DX challenge among members, following the CQ Magazine DX Marathon rules. Bob, AA9GZ, and Arde, KA9WAR have submitted totals. If anyone else has a log to submit, please submit it to AA9GZ by the March 13th meeting.

FIELD DAY...

There's less than four months until the start of summer, and the ARRL Field Day on June 28th and 29th. We have been offered the use of Ken and Debbie Jones' property near the Water Tower in Menominee again this year. The site has plenty of room, some well-placed trees, and is very accessible to the public, as proven by a record number of visitors last summer. It's not too early to start planning what we want to do this year, and we'll start the discussion at the March meeting. Does anyone have a tower and beam for this year? The club now owns two large tents, so we'll have plenty of room out of the elements, if necessary.

PICNIC...

The club has reserved the 3rd pavilion (next to the deer yard) for our annual picnic. Mark your calendars for August 17th. More information will follow in the coming months.

AES SUPERFEST...

The annual Superfest will be held at AES in Milwaukee on March 28th and 29th this year. The event features displays from many manufacturers and Wisconsin area clubs and other organizations, forums throughout the day, VE Testing, a Fox Hunt, and DXCC card checking. This year our local Young Amateur Contest Ham Team (YACHT) will have a table to spread the word about what we are doing to encourage young amateur activity here. Forum topics include Digital Modes, D-Star, Modulation presented by Jack Hudson, W9MU, Legal Issues with Jim O'Connell, W9WU, Telescopes, and the ever-popular Gordon West Show. It's a great event, and many of our members make the trip each year. Oh, did we mention there are some nice show-only deals on radios, too?

QSO PARTIES...

It's QSO Party time again. The Wisconsin QSO Party will be held from 1pm to 8pm CDT on Sunday March 10th. (Remember to change your clocks early that morning). It's a fun contest for Wisconsin Hams because everyone is looking for you. Just get on and call CQ, and be amazed at the contacts you can make. Complete rules are at <http://www.warac.org/wqp/wqp.htm>. There's a nice article that explains how it works and why you should give it a try at <http://www.warac.org/wqp/2008/10reasons.htm>

It's Michigan's turn on April 19th. For details on the Michigan QSO Party, see www.miqp.org K8IR is on the MIQP committee, and can answer any questions you might have.

UP HAM DIRECTORY NOW ONLINE...

The "All New U.P. Ham Directory -2008" is now available FREE of charge, on the KCRA Website and on the CCRAA website. KCRA: www.kcra-mi.net CCRAA: www.ccraa.net

There are two indices: One by Amateur radio Call Sign SUFFIX....the other by the person's LAST NAME.

Just click on UP HAM DIRECTORY to get there.

GRID SQUARE LOCATER...

Bob, K8RJ passes along this link that lets you determine your Grid Square right down to the street level:

<http://f6fvy.free.fr/qthLocator/fullScreen.php>

WISCONSIN HAMS ASSIST INJURED DRIVER...

From the ARRL Letter

On Wednesday, February 27, Brian Sprecher, KC9LCC, of Prairie Du Sac, Wisconsin, received a radio call on the 147.150 Madison repeater requesting emergency help. Robert Stout, WB9ECK, of Monticello, Wisconsin, told Sprecher that a vehicle had gone off the road through a guard rail, stopping short of a creek. The driver was injured and trapped in his vehicle and an ambulance was needed at the scene. Stout, via the repeater, kept Sprecher apprised of the driver's injuries; Sprecher, in turn, called authorities for help. Stout remained at the scene providing aid until local police arrived. "It sounds like the guy drove off the road through a guard rail and may have not been found had it not been for WB9ECK. This could have been a lot worse had WB9ECK not become involved," Sprecher said.

AGENDA for M & M AMATEUR RADIO CLUB
March 13, 2008

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

- License Classes
- HOTY Election
- Fish Fry
- DX Challenge

14. New Business...

- Weather Spotter Training
- Field Day
- Picnic
-

15. Announcements/Raffle

16. Adjournment

17. Program

M&M Amateur Radio Club Meeting Minutes.

January 10th 2008

As approved at the February 14th meeting

- 7:00pm The pledge of Allegiance.
- All members discussed actives since the last club meeting.
- The Secretary's report was approved as printed in The Ground Wave newsletter.
- The Treasurer's report. Was printed in the Ground Wave. The club received a \$50.00 credit from the bank on a storage fee. A check for \$320.00 was sent to the insurance company. Total remaining is \$2239.30.
- Communications: The Insurance policy remains in effect. The Yacht Club has been reserved for the July 10th meeting.
- The Net Report; 2007 Sunday night net-averaged 28 check-ins. The highest weekly total was 44 check-ins. The ARRL audio news will again resume during the weekly net.
- DAR Report; \$300.00 now in the DAR fund. Mr. Engleman reported that several kids are in the radio room every day.. A group discussion took place about the two years that K8DAR has been in operation. Ed encouraged the membership to stop in and take a look at the radio room. Mr. Engleman informed the club what equipment was present at the DAR. There will be a Youth forum sometime in early April, in the Gaylord Michigan Area. Young Hams from all over the state are getting together to discuss how to promote young people in amateur radio.
- Quarter Master's Report: Current as printed in the Club's web page.
- Repeater Committee: The 147.000 repeater sounds very good at the moment. Duplexers are still an issue.
- HAT Report: Diane, (KC9III) thanked the HAT team for their help with an antenna installation at her residence..
- QCWA.Report; Dave is out of the area, no report this meeting.
- Old Business; License Classes, Mr. Engleman discussed with the member ship an alternative method of instruction used by other radio clubs for the up coming classes.. An advertisement will be will be placed in the newspaper soon . An organizational/informational meeting will be scheduled for February 2nd.
- VE Testing session February 5th -5:30pm at the Stephenson Public Library.
- A discussion among the membership about Test pool questions and the new effective dates took place..
- Charter Night; The members present thought it would be a good idea to as a group meet and have a fish fry. This would be done in place of the traditional night out. The date will be selected at the next meeting.
- \Fox Hunt: Discussion among the members took place. This discussion will continue when more members are present.
- Illinois QSO Party; Mr. Callow presented pictures of his and Joe's (W9JJC) trip to the Illinois QSO party. They took 3rd place this last year in this contest. A very nice presentation was made. Thank you Mr. Callow.
- Members Present:

WC9E
K7PAM
KG8CX

KD8ESH
N9OSF
KC9FKE

K8IR
KC9III
W9JJC

K9GGV
AA9GZ

K8ZLO
KC8WAI

- Mr., Schrader, moved a motion for meeting adjournment. Mr. Voelker supported this. Motion carried.
- Meeting adjourned at 8:10pm

Treasurers report 2/29/08 from WC9E

Checking	\$1440.94
Savings	\$690.80
Total	\$2131.74
HAT	\$100
Repeater	\$456.60
DAR	\$95.87

**M&M AMATEUR RADIO CLUB
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