

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

September 2007

SEPTEMBER MEETING...

The fall season is upon us, and it's time to return to the regular meeting schedule. We'll meet at 7pm on Thursday September 13th at Spies Library in Menominee. The election of officers is on the agenda, so we hope you'll try to make the meeting. The nominating committee will present a slate of officers, but nominations will also be received from the floor. The complete agenda is included in this Ground Wave. We hope to see you there.

COUNTY BOARD TO HEAR ABOUT SKYWARN...

Cheryl Wruk, KC9LNT, a member of the Marinette County Board, has invited us to make a presentation to the Marinette County Board at their September 25th meeting regarding our SKYWARN activities. Cheryl and Al Mans, KG9BI, another ham on the Board, have been

promoting our services to some key board people. Several board members have expressed an interest in hearing more about what we as ham radio operators can do in emergency situations such as SKYWARN, and how we can assist county, city and village personnel whenever an emergency requiring our services should arise.

Cheryl would like to see as many of you at the September club meeting as possible to discuss our presentation. Other than that, she would like to see as many as possible to attend the board meeting on Sept. 25 to lend credence to the entire program, and say a few words about what the SKYWARN program means to Marinette Co., and how we utilize the services of the Green Bay weather office, and in turn provide them with real time reports of weather in the field. This could be a big step forward in our relationship with Marinette county government.

ANNUAL PICNIC A SUCCESS...

Members of the M&M ARC along with family and guests gathered at Henes Park in Menominee for our annual club picnic on August 19th.



The afternoon featured plenty of time for good conversation, an excellent meal from the grill prepared by our hosts, Paul and Maxine Drees, supplemented by a wide variety of dishes and desserts prepared by club members,



The afternoon was topped off by a round of Ham Bingo hosted by Dave and Jeanne Arnold, who donated the dozens of wonderful prizes for the game. Thanks to everyone who helped to make the afternoon a success.

ALEX NEMETZ OUR NEWEST HAM...

Those who attended the picnic had a chance to meet 10 year old Alex Nemetz, who passed his



Alex taking his Technician test at the DAR

Technician test on August 16th, getting just two wrong. His callsign, KC9MBY, is quickly becoming a familiar one as Alex is busy on the area repeaters, and has done a fine job as net control of the Friday night Youth Net. Congratulations, Alex!

HAT TEAM KEEPS BUSY...

The Ham Assistance Team continued a busy summer during the past month.



On August 18th the Marinette and Menominee ARC Ham Assistance Team joined up with members from the Antigo area to raise a Cellwave PD340 2m antenna along with 7/8" feedline to about 220'. This is for an APRS

digipeater that Mark, N9MEA, has placed on air for that area.



On September the 8th, the M&M ARC HAT Team installed a 2 Meter Hustler antenna atop the roof at John, AB9F's QTH in Pound. There will be a future HAT project at John's house for the installation of a antenna support structure.

VE SESSION SCHEDULED...

Paul, WC9E reports he has scheduled an exam session on Tuesday, October 9th at the Spies Library. Registration will be at 5:30 and testing at 6pm. Our regular meeting room will be occupied by a study group but we can have the adjoining room.

WARAC FEATURES AB9PJ...

Last month we reported that club members KC9III and AB9PJ were both scholarship winners. Pete, AB9PJ, was selected as winner of the West Allis Radio Amateur Club (WARAC) scholarship. Pete was featured in their newsletter last month. You can download the WARAC newsletter at:

<http://www.warac.org/hamtrix/0807trix.pdf>

YACHT TEAM TO ENCOURAGE YOUNG CONTESTERS...

Ed, KG8CX, and Jim, KS8O have organized the Young Amateur Contest Ham Team for the young ham operators from Menominee, Marinette, Oconto, and Brown counties. The purpose is to expand their horizons in the field of contesting along with general and advanced ham radio techniques, and to foster a greater appreciation of the role they play in the overall hobby of amateur radio, as well as giving them a challenge and enjoyment. A competition for VHF contacts is already underway, and an HF band competition for working all states, and DXCC will start October 1st. For more information, check out the YACHT team link on the KG8CX/M&M ARC Web Page at www.w8pif.com.

CATCH THOSE BAND OPENINGS...

Ed, KG8CX passes along this interesting website that shows predictions of tropospheric ducting, which creates those band openings on the VHF and UHF bands. Check out:

<http://www.dxinfocentre.com/tropo.html>

AES AND YAESU OPEN HOUSE...

Amateur Electronic Supply in Milwaukee and Yaesu are teaming for an open house on Saturday, September 22nd from 9A.M. to 3 P.M. In attendance will be Dennis Motschenbacher, K7BV - Yaesu's Amateur Division Executive V.P. who will be showing a video on his 4W/K7BV operation from East Timor, and PowerPoint presentation of the recent V36M VHF operation from Belize. You'll also be able to see the latest ham gear including the just-introduced Yaesu FT-950, as well as the elite FTdx-9000. There will be drawings for certificates towards the purchase of Yaesu radios and accessories, hats, a new DXCC Map, Free Coffee and Donuts. If

you've been planning a trip to AES, September 22nd sounds like a great date.

FCC TO LOWER VANITY CALL SIGN FEES SEPTEMBER 17

The FCC will reduce the regulatory fee to obtain or renew an Amateur Radio vanity call sign by more than 40 percent starting September 17. In a Report & Order (R&O) released August 6, "Assessment and Collection of Regulatory Fees for Fiscal Year 2007," in MD Docket 07-81, the Commission will cut the fee from its current \$20.80 to \$11.70. This marks the lowest fee in the history of the current vanity call sign program. The FCC is authorized by the Communications Act of 1934 (as amended) to collect vanity call sign fees to recover the costs associated with that program. The vanity call sign fee has fluctuated over the 11 years of the current program -- from a low of \$12 to a high of \$50. The FCC says it anticipates some 14,700 Amateur Radio vanity call sign "payment units" or applications during the next fiscal year, collecting \$171,990 in fees from the program.

The vanity call sign regulatory fee is payable not only when applying for a new vanity call sign, but also upon renewing a vanity call sign for a new term. The first vanity call sign licenses issued under the current Amateur Radio vanity call sign program that began in 1996 came up for renewal last year. Call signs issued prior

to 1996 are not considered vanity call signs, even if the holder was able to request a specific call sign.

Amateur Radio licensees may file for renewal only within 90 days of their license expiration date. All radio amateurs must have an FCC Registration Number (FRN) before filing any application with the Commission. Applicants can obtain an FRN by going to the ULS <http://wireless.fcc.gov/uls/> and clicking on the "New Users Register" link. You must supply your Social Security Number to obtain an FRN.

The ARRL VEC will process license renewals for vanity call sign holders for a modest fee. The service is available to ARRL members and nonmembers, although League members pay less. Routine, non-vanity renewals continue to be free for ARRL members. Trustees of club stations with vanity call signs may renew either via the ULS or through a Club Station Call Sign Administrator, such as ARRL VEC. License application and renewal information and links to the required forms are available on the ARRL Amateur Application Filing FAQ Web page <http://www.arrl.org/FandES/field/regulations/application-filing-faq.htm> The FCC's forms page <http://www.fcc.gov/formpage.html> also offers the required forms.

SEPTEMBER 1ST TREASURERS REPORT BY PAUL DREES, WC9E

Checking	\$888.57
Savings	\$689.08
Total	\$1577.65

Included in this total is:

DAR	\$99.09
Repeater	\$404.95

AGENDA for M & M AMATEUR RADIO CLUB
September 13, 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. Old Business

- Picnic
- QCWA
- Nominating Committee
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13. New Business...

- Election of Officers
- Jamboree on the Air
- County Board Presentation

14. Announcements/Raffle

15. Adjournment

16. Program

- KG8CX Video

**M&M AMATEUR RADIO CLUB
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