

Wisconsin Association of Repeaters
NEWSLETTER
June 1998

From the Chairman's Desk

At the last meeting of the Wisconsin Association of Repeaters, the annual election of officers was held. I am happy to inform you that all of the current officers (except one) were reelected to their respective positions. I would like to congratulate and thank them for accepting nominations and continuing on the Board of the Wisconsin Association of Repeaters. I think it is a good group of folk. I would like to recognize, and thank Nels Harvey, WA9JOB. Nels came to me a few months ago and started a process of "convincing" me to accept a nomination for the position of Chairman. I have great respect for Nels, and have worked with him for many years on the 146.910 machine in Milwaukee. I am glad to have his assurance of assistance and counsel as I start out and learn the workings and responsibilities of this position. (So blame Nels for this...)

I'm sure you will agree that Nels Harvey has been a vital and driving force for many years within W.A.R. Nels will continue to be involved with W.A.R. as a Director (representative) to The Mid America Coordination Council (MACC), and The National Frequency Coordination Council (NFCC). He currently serves as Vice President of MACC, and is working hard on the evolution and formation of the NFCC. His experience and insight into these groups is unique, and proper representation of Wisconsin's Hams and W.A.R. on the national level is critical at this time. I have complete confidence in Nels to continue to represent the best interests of W.A.R. and amateur radio within MACC and the NFCC. Thanks, Nels!

I would also thank Mr. Dan Bolander, WB9TYT. Dan has been doing very well in the position of Frequency Coordinator for the last year. This is the most important part and duty of WAR. I have confidence in his abilities (and computer power), and am happy to announce that he has agreed to continue as Frequency Coordinator.

Also, Ray Vollrath, WD9HOD, has agreed to continue as the Editor of the W.A.R. Newsletter, and Dave Knaus, WA9POV, will keep up the W.A.R. WWW site as Webmaster.

My thanks to all the Board and appointed position holders for a fine job in the past, and for your continuing interest in, and commitment to the Wisconsin Association of Repeaters.

I would like to state that I have no problem with any of the workings and past decisions of W.A.R. over the last few years, and I do not take this position with an "agenda" or attitude of sweeping change or revision. On the contrary, I feel the operation is in fine shape, and doing its job.

I look forward to working with all of you! Please feel free to contact me at:

N9UUR@execpc.com -or-
Gary Bargholz,
8273 North 53rd Street
Brown Deer, WI. 53223
On to the current issues;

Most important is a new threat to our Frequency Spectrum. The Land Mobile Communications Council (LMCC) has issued a formal rule making request (designated RM 9267) to the FCC that it immediately reallocate most of the 70 centimeter Amateur band over to private mobile operations with private land mobile designated as the primary user. They are requesting the FCC to immediately reallocate 420 to 430 MHz and 440 to 450 MHz to the Private Mobile Radio Service on a primary

basis. The LMCC is also asking for new allocations at 1390 to 1400 MHz, 1427-1432 MHz, and 1670 to 1675 MHz. It is also looking for 85 MHz at 960 to 1215 MHz.

The 70 centimeter band is the second most popular of the amateur radio services' VHF and UHF allocations. Amateur radio is a secondary user of 420 to 450 MHz. There are thousands of FM repeaters operating from 440 to 450 MHz and a variety of modes on the air every day in the 420 to 430 MHz segment. While the Land Mobile Communications Council petition indicates that it is willing to permit Amateur Radio to retain some sort of secondary status, this would be only on a non-interfering basis with the new commercial interests.

Specific information and recommendations plus a copy of the LMCC petition and a list of LMCC members are available on the ARRLWeb page at <http://www.arrl.org/news/bandthreat>.

The ARRL also has a WWW page with hints on filing comments with the FCC:
http://www.arrl.org/field/regulations/news/filing_hints.html

The NFCC (National Frequency Coordination Council) has voted to create a WWW Site. The purpose is to have a means to disseminate factual information about the NFCC and coordination information to all. It will be some time before it can be created and posted to the WWW.

The site is proposed to include the following information:

- > Statement of what the NFCC is and it's purpose.
- > NFCC News Releases.
- > FCC PRMs, NPRMs, Etc., or links to such data that may be applicable to the NFCC or coordination activities.
- > A listing of the name, address, certification status and coordination service area of each recognized coordinator.
- > Links to that entity's individual web site(s).
- > Bandplans as submitted by each member entity.

Update coordination information is needed every year at this time. You should have a application in this, and the last newsletter. Our Treasurer, Jim Sheetz K9OQO reports that many forms have been coming in. We need to keep our information current and updated, so please make sure yours has been sent in.

I would like to start gathering an E-Mail address list for all of the members of WAR. Some subjects that come up are time critical. Such as the LMCC issue. A method beyond the newsletter to communicate with all of the states repeater owners / trustees would allow W.A.R. to respond and inform in a more timely fashion. I do not wish to start a major list (one person per machine please!), or send frequent mailings. However there are some issues that may arise that you need to be aware of quickly. There is a line on the current application / renewal form to enter an E-Mail address, or E-Mail me directly at N9UUR@execpc.com to get on the list.

The next meeting of the Wisconsin Association of Repeaters will be held on June 13, 1998 in Tomahawk at the Bridge Inn. Coming in from the north or south on the by-pass of Hwy. 51, turn west on Hwy. 86. At the four-way stop sign, turn north. The Bridge Inn is just north of the Wisconsin River bridge on the east side of the road. It would be easier to approach from the south, because you are not crossing traffic and because there is construction just north of the Bridge Inn. (Thanks to Diane KA9BHK for the directions!)

Dutch treat lunch at noon, with the meeting starting at 1:00 P.M. Remember, it's your lunch business that pays for the room. I look forward to seeing you there!

73 N9UUR