

WISCONSIN ASSOCIATION OF REPEATERS



April 2009
Newsletter

Member: Mid-America Coordination Council
Founding Member: National Frequency Coordination Council

From the Chairman

It is with sorrow that I announce the passing of a good friend (and great help to me as I first became W.A.R. Chairman) and Amateur Radio Operator, Dave Knaus, N9QA.

Some of you with long standing ties to W.A.R. will remember Dave. He was involved at the start of W.A.R. (Early 1960's) as a coordinator, created our first www page, and was our Webmaster till May of 2006. Locally here in Milwaukee, Dave was involved with the West Allis Radio Amateur's Club, and The Ozaukee Radio Club. He was there to start the formation of both clubs' Student (College) Scholarship Funds. Dave worked for Astronautics Corp. of America in Milwaukee, and was responsible for their Quality Assurance, hence Dave's call got changed to N9QA.

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The coordinators have completed the annual renewal process, and all data has been reported to the ARRL for the repeater directory.

However... the same old problems exist. Get your paperwork back to us.

I commend the vast majority of you who send back their renewal form signed within DAYS of the first mailing. Why some wait for the THIRD envelope, via Certified Mail, is a mystery. And a very few even ignore that as well. So, we can ask, beg, send more mail out,

**Next W.A.R. Meeting:
Saturday April 18th, 2009
1:00 PM**

**Offices of the
American Red Cross
Appleton, WI**

1302 E. Wisconsin Ave.
Appleton, WI 54911

and get prissy about it. Or, Milt and I have been looking at the renewal process, and realize most of the late returns come with a "I was just too busy to get at it" excuse.

We therefore propose to start the renewal process earlier, and give you more time before the due date deadline. We need to have the W.A.R. database update complete by mid December for reporting to the ARRL Repeater Directory. We will talk it over at the next meeting in Appleton on April 18.

Here is what we're thinking:

1. The annual renewal forms will be mailed out in the second quarter of the calendar year (mid May) to the Primary Contact person, and due back August 15th.
2. For those who do not respond to the first mailing, a second notice of renewal will be mailed out to the Holder of Coordination and Primary Contact in the third quarter of the Calendar year (mid September), and due back by November 15th.

3. Any repeater or link whose annual renewal form is not returned by November 15th is therefore de-coordinated (Not published in our listings, not reported to the ARRL). A subsequent request for re-coordination must be made in person, or by proxy, to the Board of Directors, and members present, at the next W.A.R. meeting.

In the middle of the second notice period, is the October Newsletter, where we could publish the "delinquent" list at that point, and maybe some folk would notice and call their Club President or repeater owner and ask "what's up?". We do realize that in some cases, people move on (and we are not aware of it), and the folk who are left just don't get the forms.

Gary Bargholz, N9UUR
W.A.R. Chairman

List of Officers & Appointments

Chairman - Gary Bargholz, N9UUR
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(414) 355-6922 chairman@wi-repeaters.org

Vice-Chairman - Dan Bolander WB9TYT
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Secretary - Mark Helmmerrmann, KF9CS
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Treasurer - Jim Sheetz, K9OQO
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(920) 757-9457 treasurer@wi-repeaters.org

Frequency Coordinator - Dave Karr, KA9FUR
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Asst. Coordinator - Milt Klingsporn, N9WSZ
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From the Assistant Coordinator

In 2008 we processed 56 coordination requests. These involved new repeaters and links as well as repeaters that increased power or antenna height, added CTCSS or moved. We have over 300 repeaters and nearly 200 links in our database, including those that are operational (see the listings) and those that are proposed, under construction or temporarily off-the-air.

In the first two months of 2009 we've received 11 coordination requests, as well as adding CTCSS tone to 20 repeaters (due to the 2008 sunset for having tone squelch on a repeater's input). Only four repeaters were proactive and requested adding CTCSS before the end of 2008.

Re-new (rinú:,rinjú:) v.t. to complete the yearly paperwork we all hate.

Here is a recap of the 2008 renewals:

195 Renewal letters were mailed on October 6th. 116 (59%) were received by the due date of November 6th, with an additional 12 received by November 10th for a total of 66% received. A thank you to those who promptly returned their renewal forms.

64 "Second Notice" renewal letters were mailed on November 12th. Thirteen of those have a history of receiving "Second Notice" and certified letters in previous years. 37 were received by the December 1st due date, with an additional 9 by December 5th for a total of 72% received.

18 certified letters, with a third renewal form, were sent to the non-respondents on December 8th. Six of these have a history of receiving "Second Notice" and certified letters in the past. 11 were received by the December 29th due date.

Please. When you receive your renewal form in the mail, return it in a timely fashion.

Below is a listing of repeaters that were sent certified letters with a third renewal form and did not respond by the December 29th due date and are now de-coordinated. A request for re-coordination must be made in person, or by proxy, at the next W.A.R. meeting.

There are two new forms on the web site...

If a repeater's Holder of Coordination (the "owner" of the coordination) is changing, there are two forms that needs to be used. The current Holder of Coordination needs to complete, sign and send in the "Relinquish Holder of Coordination" form.

If the repeater is not being moved or changed (except for a callsign change) in anyway, the new Holder of Coordination should then complete, sign and send in the "New Holder of Coordination Application" form. If the

repeater's antenna location, height, CTCSS or ERP is being changed you MUST use the Coordination Application Form and NOT the "New Holder of Coordination Application" form. Both of these forms can be found on the WAR web site.

If you read nothing else, please read this...

When systems need to move, change hands, or have changes that affect its coverage area, we need to be notified before or as these changes are being made. In some instances a small move might result in interference for another system. WAR is also obligated to work with the surrounding states as we mutually keep each other up to date not only on new systems, but on existing systems as well.

This process only works if we all work together.

Milt N9WSZ
Assistant Coordinator

Recently De-Coordinator Repeater			
City	Callsign	Frequency	Coordination Date
Adams	KB9JYT	145.2900	1/16/1995
Bayfield	KB0TNB	53.0900	1/9/2006
Big Flats	N9WYQ	146.6250	6/24/1997
Big Flats	N9WYQ	444.7250	3/15/1999
Hurley	KC0IPA	147.1650	1/2/2007
Madison	N9KAN	53.0700	8/18/2007
Madison	N9KAN	443.4000	8/18/2007
Milwaukee	KA9WXN	145.2450	8/18/2007
Milwaukee	KA9WXN	145.2500	8/18/2007
Milwaukee	KC9LKZ	442.46875	8/18/2007
Milwaukee	KC9LKZ	1290.0500	8/18/2007
Milwaukee	N9LKH	145.1300 (and it's links)	7/9/1997
North Freedom	KD9UU	443.6750	8/18/2007
Pewaukee	W9RCG	443.1250	11/28/2006
Tomah	KB9EBX	444.8500	6/7/2007

Wisconsin Association of Repeaters

October 11, 2008

Meeting Minutes

The meeting was called to order at 1:07 p.m. by the Chairman, Gary Bargholz. It was held at the Grafton Senior Center in Grafton, Wisconsin.

Introduction of members and guests:

KF9CS Mark Heimmermann
KA9FUR Dave Karr
K9OQO Jim Sheetz
WB9TYT Dave Bolander
WA9JOB Nels Harvey
K9QLP Gregg Lenglins
AA9W Ed Rate
KB9ZOT Vince Morand
N9UUR Gary Bargholz
N9VSV Jeananne Bargholz
W9GOC Frederick Baguhn
Betsy Baguhn
WB9MHS Virgil Burmeister
WD9EGA Margaret Burmeister

Secretary's Report:

There was a correction to the minutes as printed on the requirement of tone squelch. The correct wording for the motion was:

XIII Additional Policies and General Guidelines

As of December 31, 2008, all repeater coordinations (renewals, new coordinations and reinstatements) shall be conditioned upon the use of tone or coded squelch.

For all existing coordinations which do not currently have a tone assignment, the WAR coordinators will work with adjacent states coordinators to make an initial election for a tone squelch frequency. It is anticipated that most tone selections will be consistent with WAR's regional tone plan, but this screening process is necessary to avoid inadvertently recommending a tone which is already used by a co-channel user.

Jeananne, N9VSV, made a motion to approve the minutes as printed with the above corrections on tone squelch. It was seconded by Gregg, W9DHI, and approved by unanimous consent.

Treasurer's Report:

Jim reported the current balance is \$4379.80.

Gregg, K9QLP, made a motion to accept the treasurer's report as presented. The motion was seconded by Nels, WA9JOB. The treasurer's report was approved by unanimous consent.

Communications:

Newsletter – The printer did not close, it relocated. The next newsletter will be back with the old printer.

Group Reflector – The group reflector is "WAR@MAILMAN.QTH.NET". The reflector has very little activity but is up and running fine.

Chairman's Issues:

WAR board members are reimbursed when traveling more than 60 miles. We discussed whether to reimburse by actual expenses or a reimbursement based on miles traveled.

Gregg made a motion to "Base the reimbursement for WAR board members on the published IRS standard rates to calculate the costs of operating an automobile." The current rate for the last 6 months of 2008 is 58.5 cents per mile. The motion was seconded by Jim and approved.

Gary presented WAR's bylaws; Policy and Band Plan documents which were updated with motions that have been approved since 2002. With the presentation of the final documents, it was about time to propose some new changes.

"Circular logic Problem" is the policy document with section V.K.

Section V.K requires a repeater system to be re-coordinated if it has significant changes, although the site maintains its "first-on-frequency" status. Therefore, the site is both "first-on-frequency" and recently re-coordinated. This causes conflict with the site responsible to correct the interference.

Nels, WA9JOB, made a motion "To remove section V.K from the policy document" to eliminate the circular logic it creates. The motion was seconded by Dave, KA9FUR, and approved by unanimous consent.

Gary will update the Bylaws and the Policy Document with the changes approved today.

Frequency Coordinator:

On August 23, 2008 the assistant coordinator, Milt, sent letters to repeaters that had been tagged "under construction" for more than six months after coordination with no notice that they'd been placed on-the-air, or receiving a request for an extension. There was no response from the following and they were removed from the database.

Listing ONE - De-Coordinated

Under Construction period expired

City	Callsign	Tx Freq	Coordination Date
Baraboo	WB9FDZ	145.2550	8/18/2007
Baraboo	WB9FDZ	1292.2000	8/18/2007
Cleveland	K9SJ	444.1750	1/2/2007
Colgate	K9JAC	Link	7/10/2006
Fort Atkinson	W9MQB	Link	10/9/2006
Hartford	K9JAC	Link	7/10/2006
Jackson	K9JAC	Link	7/10/2006
Meno Falls	K9JAC	Link	7/10/2006
Merten	K9JAC	Link	7/10/2006
Milwaukee	K9JAC	Link	7/10/2006
Milwaukee	K9JAC	Link	7/10/2006
Milwaukee	N9EJO	442.2250	10/16/2007
Milwaukee	KC9LKZ	442.4750	8/18/2007
Silver Cliff	WA8WG	145.2300	12/9/2007

There were also a number of repeaters that had been tagged as "temporarily off-the-air" and we have not received any notice that they were again operational. The following were sent a letter on August 23rd, and after no response they were sent a certified letter on September 15th stating the repeater was being removed from our database.

Listing TWO - De-Coordinated

Temporary off air period expired

City	Callsign	Tx Freq	Last Update Date
Adell	KC9BKA	147.1800	10/3/2006
Appleton	N9QZD	1282.2000	9/10/2004
Kenosha	N9OIG	442.2000	1/21/2005
Luxemburg	W9BLI	443.7000	11/29/2002
Milwaukee	W9DHI	444.8750	9/21/2004
Rhineland	KA9TCC	147.3600	6/26/2001
Shell Lake	KB9KJE	442.1500	10/29/2004
Tomah	N9UOM	443.7000	9/22/2000

There are several steps in coordinating a repeater:

1. You complete a coordination form and mail it in.
2. WAR reviews the form and selects a frequency.
3. A Notice of Pending Coordination (NOPC) is sent to the adjoining states' frequency coordinators by WAR (they have 30 days to respond).
4. If all is okay at this point, WAR sends a coordination letter to you and you have 60 days to construct the repeater.
5. You notify WAR that the repeater is operational and on-the-air.

All five steps must be completed for your repeater to be coordinated. If you don't let us know that the repeater has been placed on the air, you are not yet coordinated. After being coordinated, WAR sends the annual renewal form to the 'primary contact' person for each repeater.

The frequency coordinator, Dave KA9FUR, brought up some concerns with packet and DStar. These digital modes do not have a viable organization listing the digital communications and exchanging this information with other coordination groups. Dave proposed WAR to consider listing the stations in WAR's database and providing the information to the amateur community. A new position would be required to administrate the list.

After some discussion, Dave – WB9TYT, will contact Andy to determine if WAPR is still active. Will WAPR take up the task of administering all the digital stations? Can WAR provide assistance to help with the task or should WAR take on this task and create a new position to support this function? WAR hopes WAPR will fill in the hole being created by the new modes of digital communication. Dan will report back when he finds out and a decision will be made then.

Other/New Business

none

The next WAR meeting will be in Appleton, Wi. on April 18.

The meeting closed at 2:21 pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Mark Heimmermann (KF9CS)
W.A.R. Secretary

2009 Central States VHF Society Annual Conference

CENTRAL STATES
July 23 - 26, 2006

Elk Grove Village Holiday Inn

Elk Grove Village, Illinois

Technical Conference Presentations
Flea Market & Vendors Outdoor Antenna Range

Additional information at: www.csvhfs.org