

# Minnesota Repeater Council



## Fall 2005 Newsletter

Founding Member: National Frequency Coordination Council

### MRC Officers:

#### Chair

Steve Glatzel, KØFHC  
16200 62nd Street NE  
Otsego MN 55330  
sglatzel@aol.com  
763-441-0985

#### Vice Chair

Jay Maynard, K5ZC  
1831 Oakwood Dr.  
Fairmount MN 56031  
jmaynard@conmicro.cx  
507-235-6485  
952-960-3600

#### Secretary Treasurer

Jerry Dorf, NØFWG  
1402 Pulaski Road  
Buffalo MN 55313  
jerryd@jerryd.net  
763-682-2169

### Appointments

#### Frequency Coordinator

Jerry Dorf, NØFWG  
See Secretary's info

#### Technical Committee Chair

Brad Ornes, KAØSQC  
bradd1@iaxs.net

#### User Liaison

Thomas Gagnon KBØDCO  
805 20th Street East  
Glencoe MN 55336  
320-864-4274  
kbØdco@arrl.net

The Spring MRC  
Meeting will be  
held

Saturday  
Oct 22, 2005

at the  
North St. Paul  
Community  
Center

2290 1st Street  
North St. Paul MN  
55109

Registration 1:00 PM  
Call to order 2:00 PM

The community center is located  
near Minnesota Highway's  
36 & 120.

A map is provided on page 2

Pizza & pop will be provided,  
however a donation is encour-  
aged!

It is important that if your not  
going to attend the meeting to  
give your proxy vote to someone  
who can attend.

This can be another club member  
or any licensed amateur, it does  
not have to be a MRC member.

Chairmans letter to the members.

Echolink and IRLP.

Is it real ham radio?, yes it is. What it is,  
is another new frontier of radio, just as  
packet, moon bounce, autopatch and  
many other forms have been in the past.  
Where would cell phones be today if it  
wasn't for what was spun off from the  
autopatches of the 70's. Echolink and  
IRLP are still growing in popularity, new  
ways of using this technology are still  
being developed. I wasn't a big fan of it  
in the beginning but it has it's uses. On  
my repeater it is used to keep in touch  
with users when they are out of town,  
sure we get the random checkins that  
just "ping" the repeater to see if there is  
any activity, but for the most part it  
serves a purpose. As winter approaches  
we have friends going south for the win-  
ter, it gives them a chance to stay con-  
nected when away. Other uses might be  
linking remote sites together that may  
not be possible using a "rf" path. You  
might not be able to get WAS or DXCC  
but just wait there will be many con-  
cepts that we haven't thought up yet.

The fall meeting of the MRC is our elec-  
tion meeting, it has usually been held  
the same day as the hamfest in Saint Paul  
but the club holding that hamfest de-  
cided to hang it up and cancel their show.  
Were they looking at their hamfest just  
as a business? If it made money it would  
continue, if not then down the road it  
goes!

Continued on Page 2

## Contacting the MRC Secretary & Coordinator!

I have a full time job, so if you wish to contact me by phone, it is best to try 6-9PM in the evenings except Wednesdays.

Sending registered mail is going to delay my receiving the correspondence, this also requires my leaving work early or going to the post office on a Saturday morning.

I normally read and respond to email on a daily basis, this is preferred if I need to research something or for simple questions.

Repeater Updates and frequency applications must be mailed or faxed. I will provide my FAX number upon request. You may also scan your documents and email the document.

You may use email to notify us of operational changes to your repeater like its now on the air or will be off the air for a period of time.

Proxy forms can be mailed or faxed, emailed scans are acceptable, however just a proxy statement is not..

Thanks

Jerry

### MRC Resources on the Internet

MRC Webpage <http://www.mrc.gen.mn.us>

MRC Mailing list:

This mailing list is for announcements and general discussion of MRC events, policy and operations. Currently it is un-moderated and open to all. Sign up at:

<http://mailman.qth.net/mailman/listinfo/mrc>

Don't forget to change your email program to "plain text" before you try to send anything. Messages with HTML or other fancy print will come through blank if you don't make the change.... Also do not include attachments!

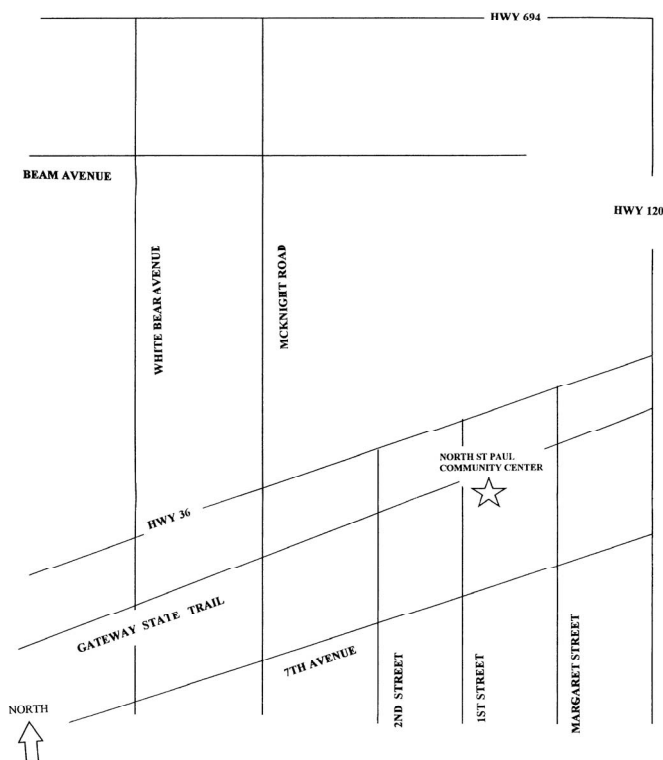
Chairmans Letter continued from page 1.

A hamfest is more than a profit center, it is/was in this case a rallying point, a spot where friends meet, move basements, have a cup of coffee. While a group might be in a financial bind to continue I don't think this was a problem in this case. Remember as we get into the future, support your hamfest, it might be a little support on your part that keeps "the big one" from going down the road. We often don't give much thought to going on a hunting or fishing trip, give the same consideration to going to the next hamfest that might be a few extra miles out of the way. It might keep it from being cancelled.

Until the meeting,  
Steve, K0FHC

## Map to North St. Paul Community Center

COMMUNITY CENTER 2290 1ST STREET NORTH ST PAUL 55109



## Secretary, Treasurers & Coordinators Notes

In May 2005 following the spring meeting, I attended the Dayton Hamvention. At the ARRL booth I learned that the ARRL Repeater travel companion CD Rom allows the user to export data from the program in various formats including MS excel, that can be used to program radios. Historically the MRC does not release data in this format and by policy will not do so. Is this policy something we wish to review?

Also there was a informal meeting of the NFCC members, the NFCC has been inactive for the last year. In short several members of the elected board have resigned, others lost interest etc. Nels Harvey who was the last elected president has launched a effort to get the NFCC active again. Steps are being taken to hold a election this fall and restore the NFCC back to an active group. At this time the membership list on the NFCC email list has been cleaned up.

In July, Jay Maynard and myself attended the Wisconsin Association of Repeaters (WAR) meeting in Eau Claire WI.

The MRC brought up the response's or lack there of to Notices of Pending coordinations from WAR. Dave Karr acknowledged the issue and thought he was caught up.

WAR does not like the sharing agreement that 2 MN repeaters entered into and then one announced they would be shutting down. WAR feels this evaded any logical coordination procedures for any WI group from being considered.

WAR has no formal waiting list for frequencies. Dave Karr, KA9FUR (WAR frequency coordinator) wants to publish that there is a pair available allowing anyone to apply for it and then decide who can best use the pair. Giving preference to those outside of the metro area's.

Communications with other states:

Wisconsin: Most of the time co-ordinations have gone unanswered. Sometimes they get answered quickly.

Iowa: No problems, very little need for communications at this time. Jay Maynard will be attending a IARC meeting this fall.

South Dakota: No issues or communications.

North Dakota:

Art Rabe, KB0VSE passed away last fall.

Al Bennefeld, K0CGY has been asked by the ARRL section manager to assume the position. He has working on getting all the records updated. He has decided to use Coordinators Tool Kit as his database. I have been working with him to get going.

Upper Michigan: No problems, some communications.

Canada: Currently there is no coordinator for western Ontario. Manitoba has a coordinator, however very little communications have occurred.

188 Annual update forms have been mailed out to the systems point of contact on August 12, 2005. Please return them by October 30, 2005.

If you did not get one, the mailman lost it or the dog ate it please let me know and I can get it replaced. Failure to update at least once every 2 years will result in your system not being listed in the ARRL repeater directory, any list the MRC generates and possible de-coordination. Also your name will appear in the spring newsletter.

I plan on starting enforcement of the 6 month construction window with 1- 6 month extension. If your system falls into this category, consider this your wakeup call or warning to get it on the air!

I will continue to ask that you do the following before the meeting. It is much easier to resolve any issues in advance than at a meeting. I can spend more time to help come to a solution.

Check your envelope for your membership status. If you need to pay dues, please fill out the membership form before bringing funds to the table. Or mail the application in advance!

If you look at the envelope this newsletter came in, you will find your expiration date. This is the year you are paid to the end of the listed year. So 2005 is paid up till Dec 31, 2005

Membership types listed on the envelope

REG	Regular member	ASC	Associate member
NL	Newsletter only	SPL	Special
ZZ	Unknown	RPE	Reg Pending.

If you have any questions, or there is a discrepancy with your information please ask before coming to the meeting

### Waiting List

Brad Ornes	KA0SQO	2-meters	Cambridge
Greg Kitchak	N0GEF	2-meters	Crown

### New Coordinations

WEST ST. PAUL	W0DCA	147.3900	07/14/05 *
DULUTH	KC0RTX	UHF LINK	07/09/05
CROSSLAKE	W0UJ	147.0300	07/09/05 #
MINNEAPOLIS	KA0KMJ	442.8750	06/26/05 %
BROOKLYN CENTER	K0YTH	444.7750	06/06/05
DULUTH	KC0RTX	145.4500	06/01/05
WABASHA	WA0UNB	146.7450	05/25/05
ZIM	KC0PDJ	224.6000	05/08/05

\* Coordinated with a co channel sharing agreement.

# Coordinated with a short space agreement with Wilmar after a major move.

% Was coordinated on 443.100 for a short time and then changed frequencys due to site interference

Some of you may have heard about a serious controversy going on in the Texas VHF-FM Society, the coordination body for the state of Texas. There has been at least one lawsuit filed, with threats of more, and many accusations flung back and forth by both sides. While some of the things that happened are unlikely to happen to the MRC, there's at least one problem that is common to coordinators everywhere.

The problems in Texas started when one group of dissident directors pushed through a bylaws amendment that threatened to tip the balance of power in their favor, beyond anyone's ability to correct. The Society's different from every other coordination body in one major respect: it allows any licensed ham to be a voting member. This has advantages - in particular, it allows every ham to have a say in the approval of band plans - and disadvantages, as in this case. The amendment allowed voting by mail, and the practical effect would have been to place control of the Society into whoever could finance the best campaign.

The Society's annual meeting was held on Saturday, August 6. It was long and contentious. There were more people there than at any other meeting I can remember. After some legal shenanigans, the dissident directors were voted out and a slate of candidates voted in that promises to have the best chance of healing the breach of any I can think of.

There are still problems. The lawsuit is still pending, and is currently scheduled to be heard in March 2006. A bigger threat to coordination is a competing coordination body, formed by one supporter of the dissidents and likely to be joined by them in the near future. The dissidents claim that the FCC requires that the entire coordination database be shared with this new group; the Society disagrees, and will not do so unless the FCC orders them to in writing. It's pretty much undisputed that the Society will have to cooperate with them, however. This is not going to help anyone.

In practice, this doesn't mean a lot to the MRC, but there are lessons to be learned by every coordinator. The biggest is also the most frequent complaint every coordinator hears: "paper" repeaters, coordinations that don't have a repeater on the air to go with them. This leads to complaints that frequencies are being hoarded by one group or another, and eventually complaints about unfairness in the process.

Dealing with paper repeaters is not as simple as it seems. How does a coordinator determine if a repeater is on the air? If it's in his area and he has the access codes, that's simple; if not, it can become arbitrarily difficult. Should he be required to go buy a new Icom D-Star, or an APCO 25 radio, so he can verify operation of one machine? How does a coordinator in the Cities verify a machine in International Falls is still running?

There's another problem here, as well: The folks who build and operate repeaters are a close-knit community, for the most part. There simply aren't that many of us. The coordinator is nearly always going to come from that community. That means that, when it comes time to decoordinate a paper repeater, the coordinator is in the position of taking something away from an acquaintance, if not a good friend. This is, understandably, hard to do.

The bad feelings in Texas grew over many years. I don't know if anything could have been done differently. I do know that allowing disagreements to fester can ultimately lead to serious problems. I really hope we can avoid that kind of open warfare here in Minnesota.

Jay Maynard, K5ZC

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### Annual Election of officers

Its election time again!

At the fall meeting we need to elect or re-elect the officers.

At this time all of the incumbant officers have indicated they are willing to serve another term if re-elected.

Current officers are:

Chairman: Steve Glatzel, K0FHC  
Vice Chair: Jay Maynard, K5ZC  
Sec-Treas: Jerry Dorf, N0FWG

**Please attend the meeting or give your proxy to someone who will be in attendance!**

**Also keep in mind there will be Pop & Pizza available! Key word FOOD!**

# **Preliminary Minutes of the Minnesota Repeater Council**

Spring meeting held On May 7, 2005  
Head of the lakes fairgrounds, Superior WI  
Duluth Superior hamfest

Call to order by chairman Steve Glatzel, K0FHC at 1:00PM

Introduction of officers & members made.

Quorum was met with a total of 80 members in good standing on the roster, 24 in attendance, 10 non-metro at the start of the meeting.

## **Secretary & Treasurer's report: Jerry Dorf N0FWG**

Reports presented to membership in the newsletter, and handout.

A motion was made to accept, seconded and passed.

## **Frequency coordinator: Jerry Dorf**

Reports presented to membership in the newsletter, and handout.

A motion was made to accept, seconded and passed.

**Technical Committee:** 440 interference is occurring in the twin cities metro area

## **New Members:**

Shane Young, KA0SEY, Regular member, Minneapolis 442.000

Gordon Hanson, N0ZRD, MNYARC, Regular member, portable 443.700 & pending 444.775 Brooklyn Center

Motion made to accept all the membership applications, seconded. Motion passed

## **Old Business:**

Coordinator appointment: The board previously agreed to formally appoint Jerry Dorf as the Minnesota frequency coordinator. Discussed at the fall meeting however no membership vote was taken at the time. Motion made, seconded and passed to approve Jerry Dorf, N0FWG as frequency coordinator

## **New Business:**

Jerry Dorf, N0FWG asked what to do with the old proposed repeaters that have not been placed on the air. Past database entries have made it tough to establish a coordination date. During discussion it was decided to enforce the current policy, the coordinator will send out notices that they will have 6 months to place the systems on the air, and allow 1 6 month extension if a valid explanation has been given.

## **Fall Meeting: Metro location:**

Discussion on holding the meeting at Hamfest Minnesota, historically the site was not able to meet all of requirements.. No offers were made. The secretary will check on using the North St. Paul Community center again. Meeting location will be announced in the fall newsletter.

Meeting Adjourned at 1:45 pm

Jerry Dorf, N0FWG  
Secretary Treasurer  
Minnesota Repeater Council, Inc

# Minnesota Repeater Council Checking Account

## Report as of Aug 14, 2005

Date	Type	Description	Debit	Credit	Balance	Comments
1/24/2005	Dep	Shane Young		\$10.00	\$3,981.07	Dues 2005 (new)
2/10/2005	DEP	MIKE SCHWENDEMAN		\$20.00	\$4,001.07	DUES 2007
	DEP	GORDON HANSON		\$10.00	\$4,011.07	DUES 2005 (NEW)
3/2/2005	2042	Postmaster	\$96.10		\$3,914.97	Postage Newsletter/ Notices/ misc
3/10/2005	2043	Custom Business Forms	\$85.64		\$3,829.33	Print Newsletter
3/21/2005	DEP	ARRL		\$296.00	\$4,125.33	Repeater Directory payment
3/25/2005	DEP	Kurt Eisenach		\$50.00	\$4,175.33	DUES 2010
4/4/2005	DEP	Dean Boelter		\$10.00	\$4,185.33	DUES 2006
	DEP	Erik Jacobson		\$10.00	\$4,195.33	DUES 2005
	DEP	GREG KITCHAK		\$30.00	\$4,225.33	DUES 2007
	DEP	DAVID HUSTON VIA GREG KITCHAK		\$30.00	\$4,255.33	DUES 2007
4/7/2005	DEP	Paul Germscheid		\$10.00	\$4,265.33	DUES 2005
	DEP	BRUCE BJORKLAND		\$40.00	\$4,305.33	DUES 2008
	DEP	THOMAS SVIHEL		\$10.00	\$4,315.33	DUES 2006
4/18/2005	DEP	Allen Hertzberg/ Paynesville ARA		\$20.00	\$4,335.33	DUES 2008
5/2/2005	DEP	Jon Krizek		\$10.00	\$4,345.33	DUES 2005
5/10/2005	DEP	TOM CARLSON/ SMARTS		\$10.00	\$4,355.33	DUES 2006
		DON RICE		\$10.00	\$4,365.33	DUES 2005
		MATT GENELIN		\$10.00	\$4,375.33	DUES 2005
		REUBEN RUEN		\$10.00	\$4,385.33	DUES 2005
		DAN GELLE		\$10.00	\$4,395.33	DUES 2006
		TCRC/ JEFF GOODNUFF		\$10.00	\$4,405.33	DUES 2005
		JOHN CZECH		\$10.00	\$4,415.33	DUES 2007
		ROBERT KALISZEWSKI		\$20.00	\$4,435.33	DUES 2007
		JANET ROBIDOUX		\$10.00	\$4,445.33	DUES 2005
5/11/2005	2044	North St. Paul Community Center	\$125.00		\$4,320.33	Room rental
	2045	North St. Paul Community Center	\$75.00		\$4,245.33	Damage Deposit
6/29/2005	DEP	JON PETERSON		\$10.00	\$4,255.33	DUES 2005
		RONALD GEPPERT/MARC		\$5.00	\$4,260.33	PARTIAL DUES 2005
7/15/2005	2046	Office Depot	\$87.29		\$4,173.04	Envelopes & Stamp
7/16/2005	2047	Jerry Dorf	\$18.32		\$4,154.72	Gas for WAR meeting
7/19/2005	Dep	RONALD GEPPERT/MARC		\$5.00	\$4,159.72	PARTIAL DUES 2005
8/1/2005	DEP	Wally Erikson		\$5.00	\$4,164.72	Dues 2005
		Patrick Wilmers		\$25.00	\$4,189.72	Dues 2007
8/6/2005	2048	Postmaster	\$156.20		\$4,033.52	Postage Updates, newsletter& general
8/11/2005	Dep	Robert Stark, Sr		\$30.00	\$4,063.52	Dues & newsletter 2007

Notes:

1. New & pending memberships checks have been deposited to avoid the past "Stale Check" problems.
2. The date in the comment field shows dues paid to the end of that year.

# Minnesota Repeater Council

## Membership and Renewal application form

Name of organization or individual sponsor: \_\_\_\_\_

Repeater Call: \_\_\_\_\_ Frequency(s): \_\_\_\_\_

Repeater Location(s): \_\_\_\_\_

### Trustee information (MRC Main Contact).

Trustee Callsign: \_\_\_\_\_ Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_ City: \_\_\_\_\_

Other: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

### Club or alternate contact/mailing address.

Callsign: \_\_\_\_\_ Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

**Type of Application:** Renewal  New membership  Trustee Change  Database Update

- Regular Membership  
Dues \$10.00 year  
Organization or individual who is operating a FCC licensed Amateur Repeater station on a frequency coordinated by the MRC. Has one vote at all meetings. Receives all mailings.
- Associate Member  
Dues \$ 5.00 year  
Organization or individual with a active interest in constructing an Amateur Radio Repeater station or in the activities of the MRC. Can participate in the activities of the MRC but has no vote.
- Newsletter  
Receives one copy of MRC newsletter for 1 year. Dues \$ 5.00  
Or download for free from the MRC webpage

Signed: Repeater Trustee/Regular Member

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Mail all Applications and dues to:  
Minnesota Repeater Council  
Jerry Dorf, N0FWG Secretary/Treasurer  
1402 Pulaski Road  
Buffalo MN 55313  
763-682-2169 Voice 952-473-5819 Fax  
jerryd@jerryd.net

# of years Paid: \_\_\_\_\_

Total Amount: \_\_\_\_\_

Check #: \_\_\_\_\_

Name on Check: \_\_\_\_\_

Other Info: \_\_\_\_\_

Membership Approval Granted: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Dues Paid for: 2005 2006 2007 2008 2009 2010 2011 2012 2013 2014 2015 2016 2017

**Agenda**  
**Minnesota Repeater Council General meeting**  
**Spring 2005**

**I. Call to order 2:00 PM**

- A. Welcome
- B. Establish quorum
- C. Introduction of officers and members
- D. Review Agenda

**II. Reports**

- A. Chairman
- B. Secretary & treasurer report, N0FWG
- C. Frequency coordinators report, N0FWG
- D. Technical Committee

**III Individual Announcements**

- A. Midwinter Madness, March 25, 2006

**IV. Applications for membership**

- A. Jon Peterson, WA0UNB 146.745 Wabasha (new)
- B. Patrick Wilmers, KB0QYC 147.060 Duluth

**V. Old business.**

- A. Channelized 900MHz & 1.2G band plan chart
- B.
- C.

**VI. New business**

- A. Published repeater lists & protection of data
- B.
- C.

**VII. Spring Meeting, Non Metro location**

**VIII. Election of Officers**

**VIII. Adjournment**

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**Delegate Registration (Proxy) Form**

Regular member: \_\_\_\_\_

Repeater Call: \_\_\_\_\_ Frequency: \_\_\_\_\_

Trustee: Call: \_\_\_\_\_ Name: \_\_\_\_\_

A regular member is an organization or individual that is the Trustee of record for an operating repeater in the MRC frequency coordination database with MRC membership dues paid in full at the start of the meeting.

Primary Delegate Call: \_\_\_\_\_ Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Alternate Delegate #1 Call: \_\_\_\_\_ Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Alternate Delegate #2 Call: \_\_\_\_\_ Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Restrict voting privileges: If you wish to be registered for purposes of counting attendance, but do not want your assigned delegate to have voting privileges, check here

Duration of Proxy: Check here  to allow this proxy to be used at future MRC meetings. This proxy may be altered or revoked at any time by the regular member. Check here  to restrict voting to current meeting.

Signed: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Regular Member (Trustee)

**Please mail this proxy to the Secretary at least one week prior to the meeting. Advance registration is appreciated.**