



Minnesota Repeater Council

Fall 2008 Newsletter

Founding Member: National Frequency Coordination Council

MRC Officers:

Chair

Jay Maynard, K5ZC
1831 Oakwood Dr.
Fairmont MN 56031
chair(at)mnrepeaters.org
507-235-6485
952-960-3600

Vice Chair

Greg Kitchak, NØGEF
10238 Humboldt Ave S.
Bloomington MN 55431
vicechair(at)mnrepeaters.org
952-886-0281

Secretary Treasurer

Jerry Dorf, NØFWG
1402 Pulaski Road
Buffalo MN 55313
coordinator(at)mnrepeaters.org
763-682-2169

Appointments

Frequency Coordinator

Jerry Dorf, NØFWG
See Secretary's info

Technical Committee Chair

User Liaison

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

THE SPRING MRC MEETING Will be held

**Saturday
October 18, 2008
At The
Savage City Hall**

**6000 McColl Drive
Savage Minnesota,
55378**

**We will be in the
Marion/Marietta Hall
Registration at 12:30PM
Meeting at 1:30PM**

NO Refreshments will be
provided so plan accordingly.

The location is about 1.3 miles East of Hwy 13 on McColl Drive. It is in a complex of U.S.Post Office, Library, City Hall and Police department. The entrance is called Alabama Avenue. Alabama Avenue goes North off McColl drive. The parking lot is the first right turn off Alabama. Enter the doors marked City Hall. The Marion/Marietta Hall is directly in front of you as you enter the main doors.

Chairmans Message

The FCC fired a shot across the coordination community's bow at Dayton.

Bill Cross, W3TN, the man who interprets the amateur service rules for the FCC, said at the FCC Forum there that "coordinators also need to be sure that the systems that they have coordinated are still using the channels before they tell you that your system cannot be coordinated." He went on to say that there were lots of things coordinators should be doing before telling applicants there's no room on the band for them. He cited narrowband emissions, reduced guard bands, and height restrictions as some things that could be done.

The subject came up during discussion of the Commission's rejection of a petition for rulemaking to expand the 2 meter repeater subband to make room for D-Star systems. Cross said that the petition was rejected because the Commission felt there was enough room for everyone, and that the amateur community wasn't using all of what it had. He made it clear that what we have is all we're going to get.

Continued on Page 3

Annual Election of officers

At the fall meeting we need to elect or re-elect the officers. At this time the incumbant officers have agreed to run for office.

It is important that if your not going to attend the meeting to proxy your 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.

Waiting List

Greg Kitchak	N0GEF	2-meters	Crown
Bruce Williams	N0VOW	2-meters	Wyoming Twsp

DSTAR Pending/waiting list

Alan Knutson	WB0ZKB	2-meters	Chaska/ west metro
Anoka ARES	W0ANA	2-meters	Fridley (Ross Demeyere, W0FTX)

MRC Resources on the Internet

MRC Webpage <http://www.mnrepeaters.org>
<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://eight.pairlist.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!

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..

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 in your information please ask before coming to the meeting.

Thanks for your cooperation.

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Cross was quite emphatic that the coordination community needs to be more creative in its approach to making pairs available, and that if we didn't, the FCC would do it for us. He also pointed out that people do not need to coordinate repeaters if they're not going to cause interference, and cited the case of an unused closed repeater as one where another system could be put on the air on the same frequency without coordination and without comment from the FCC as long as there was no interference.

Clearly, we are going to have to reevaluate some long-cherished practices in the way we do the job. At a bare minimum, we're going to have to be much more aggressive about re-coordinating pairs where no repeater was ever put on the air, or has been inoperative for an extended period of time. I've been told of one ham who has multiple coordinations, and when challenged on his use of those frequencies, switches his one repeater among them to "prove" he's using the pairs. That's not going to cut it any more.

Holding on to a coordination that has been issued just to have your callsign in the Repeater Directory serves nobody. It inflates the holder's ego, at the cost of keeping other hams who actually have equipment and a site and the willingness to do the work off of the band. It causes hate and discontent for no real purpose. It has to stop.

We need to reevaluate other things we do, too. The day of purely mileage-based coordinations is past. There's no reason my low-elevation 2-meter D-Star repeater in Fairmont should have 120 miles of protection, when it covers the city of Fairmont and little else. The use of coverage modeling tools such as Radio Mobile is becoming widespread in the amateur coordination world. We need to join it. So do our neighbors.

Repeater trustees have come to think of their coordination as a lifetime license to operate, totally free of any interference. This has never been true (else we wouldn't co-channel repeaters even 120 miles away), and it's even less true now. Folks who have systems up that see maybe 10 minutes use every other day - and we all know there are a LOT of them out there - are, eventually, going to have to accept sharing the channel with another system or two.

Technology may well give us some breathing room. As it is, however, Jerry has already had trouble fitting another D-Star system in in the Cities. If the technology doesn't get tried, it'll never get the chance to solve our problems. We've got to deal with this now, rather than waiting. The FCC is about to hold our feet to the fire.

I realize that getting the MRC's membership to approve some of the necessary changes will be an uphill battle. No trustee is going to be very happy about voting to diminish some of the protections he's enjoyed for decades. The fact is, however, that we just can't afford to do it the same old way any more.

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Thanks and 73...Jay

Secretary, Treasurers & Coordinators Notes

As this newsletter gets sent to the printer, my city has decided its time for a water, sewer and street improvement project. So if your attempting to reach me by phone or email and I do not respond back or your phone call does strange things its not my fault. Yes I have had a power outage, phone outage and currently have a temporary water service. Even the post office has indicated that mail may be delayed during this construction. My mountain bike got its original off road tires put back on for getting around the neighbourhood! Tonight I watched a backhoe get close to a 7200vac power line drawing a nice arc!

Random thoughts events in no particular order!

Over the summer its been busy with new and changes to existing coordinations. Communications with other states have been good with the exception of IA. There have been times this summer where I have placed the MRC business on hold for about a week before acting on them due to time conflicts.

The annual updates have been mailed out in mid August; I have been busy processing them as they are returned.

As Jay indicated the FCC is going to be pushing coordinators to make more responsible decisions with the goal of making more spectrum efficient coordination decisions. What does this mean for the repeater owners?

What I see happening in the not to distant future is: Requirements for CTCSS or other controlled access. Shorter spacing, both co-channel and first adjacent. The days of having a carrier squelch system with a 7.5Khz wide front end with a 120-mile protection circle will be coming to an end.

If your sending in dues payments PLEASE include a membership application with the check. If you fail to include one, I end up making one for you. This form is used as a backup to document your payment. Also one membership = 1 dues payment regardless of the number of systems.

Coordinators will be using more modeling tools for coverage redictions. This will require setting up some criteria for modeling.

I hope to see you all at the fall meeting.

73's Jerry Dorf, N0FWG

Policy wise we also need to look at some wording that essentially says that coordination's may be rescinded or denied if the parties involved were 'found to be lacking in candor' in their communications with the coordinator.

Currently the DSTAR demand is in the metro area, we adopted a plan last October that is currently not working due to most of the 145 sub band repeaters are in the metro area. In IL and WI they agreed to alternate pairs between Milwaukee and Chicago. This makes it easier to place DSTAR on the +/- 5KHz channels. We will need to revisit this plan ASAP

Changes to the IRS tax code require the MRC to file a informational tax return annually. We currently have been established as a Minnesota Non profit, however not on the federal level. We need to reveiw this with a attorney ASAP.

New Coordinations

Location	RPTCALL	Output	Sponser	Area	Date
ST LOUIS PARK	KG0SG	444.900	BRIAN DALE	MET	Pending
CROWN	N0GEF	442.925	Greg Kitchek	CEN	8/28/2008
RAMSEY	K0MSP	145.370	MIDWEST RADIO ASSOC.	MET	7/14/2008
RAMSEY	K0MSP	444.975	MIDWEST RADIO ASSOC	MET	7/14/2008
RUSHMORE	WB0ZSO	444.850	RANDY DONAHUE	SW	7/14/2008
MARCELL	KD6FFN	147.255	RICHARD A SHOGREN	NE	7/14/2008
NORTH BRANCH	K0DMF	Link	DAVID FURMAN	EC	7/14/2008
RUSH CITY	K0ECM	Link	DAVID FURMAN	EC	7/14/2008
CHISAGO	K0MSP	444.975	MIDWEST RADIO ASSOC	MET	7/14/2008
FRIDLEY	W0ANA	1287.000	ANKOA COUNTY ARES	MET	7/3/2008
FRIDLEY	W0ANA	443.775	ANKOA COUNTY ARES	MET	7/3/2008
MARGIE	N7ZIB	444.200	SCOTT BERRY	NE	7/3/2008
LINO LAKES	WD8CBO	927.487	GARY WILSON	MET	6/5/2008
LITCHFIELD	KC0YGD	146.625	ERIC J JOHNSON	CEN	6/1/2008
WINDOM	WB0ZSO	147.255	RANDY DONAHUE	SW	5/12/2008
FOLEY	KB0PXT	147.075	BENTON CO EMERG MGT	CEN	5/12/2008

Minutes of the Minnesota Repeater Council

Spring meeting held On May 3, 2008
Swapfest 08 located at the head of the lakes fairgrounds
Superior Wisconsin

Call to order by Chairman Jay Maynard at 1:00PM.
Introduction of officers & members made.

Quorum was met with a total of 67 members in good standing on the roster, 20 in attendance, 8 non-metro at the start of the meeting.

Secretary & Treasurer's report: Jerry Dorf N0FWG
Reports presented to membership in the newsletter, and handout.

Frequency coordinator: Jerry Dorf
Reports presented to membership in the newsletter, and handout.
Lots of new coordination activity occurring within the last month

Chairman's Report:
Nothing significant is occurring with the MRC at this point.

Technical Committee:

New Members:

Eric Johnson, KC0YGD
Bruce Williams, N0VOW
Gary Wilson, WB8CBO
Richard Auld, K0RGK
Ross Demeyere, W0FTX

Motion to approve, seconded motion passed

Old Business:
Coordinator is still waiting for a channelized 900 band plan from the planning committee.
Jay Maynard will work with Doug Reed to complete.

New Business:

Frequency Coordinator asks that the band plan committee to evaluate the feasibility of allowing full duplex links in the 440 band.

Frequency Coordinator has been asked to provide a repeater in a text only file for use by individuals in programming radios. The ARRL repeater companion CD already offers this functionality. No objections were heard, as such text version will be made available.

The email list at qsl.net will be shutdown as planned last fall.

Fall Meeting: Metro location:

Jeff Goodnuff will investigate options in Burnsville for the fall meeting and advise the board.

Meeting Adjourned at 1:25 pm

Jerry Dorf, N0FWG
Secretary Treasurer
Minnesota Repeater Council, Inc

Minnesota Repeater Council Checking Account

September 5, 2008

Date	Type	Description	Debit	Credit	Balance	Comments
1/2/2008	DEP	Austin Area ARC/ Mary Nystrom		\$10.00	\$4,250.63	Reg Dues to 2008
1/5/2008	Dep	Eric R Johnson		\$20.00	\$4,270.63	ASC Dues to 2011
1/8/2008		ROBERT STARK SR		\$15.00	\$4,285.63	Reg Dues 2008 + extra NL
2/9/2008	2083	Postmaster	\$82.00		\$4,203.63	Postage General
3/1/2008		Patrick Wilmers		\$25.00	\$4,228.63	Dues till Fall 2009
3/25/2008		ARRL		\$286.00	\$4,514.63	Repeater Directory payment
3/28/2008	Dep	Jeffery N Clarine		\$10.00	\$4,524.63	Reg Dues 2008
	Dep	Dean BOELTER		\$10.00	\$4,534.63	Reg Dues 2009
3/31/2008	Dep	ELVIN SCHMIDT		\$20.00	\$4,554.63	Reg Dues 2010
4/10/2008	Dep	Steve Glatzel		\$20.00	\$4,574.63	Reg Dues 2009
4/10/2008	Dep	Paul Germscheid		\$10.00	\$4,584.63	Reg Dues 2008
4/14/2008	Dep	Tomas Svihel		\$10.00	\$4,594.63	Reg Dues 2008
4/16/2008	Dep	Erik Jacobson		\$20.00	\$4,614.63	Reg Dues 2009
4/23/2008	Dep	KEVIN MAGLOUGHLIN		\$10.00	\$4,624.63	Reg Dues 2009
	Dep	Richard Jackson		\$10.00	\$4,634.63	Reg Dues 2009
5/1/2008	Dep	Ross Demeyere		\$30.00	\$4,664.63	Reg Dues 2010 Pending
5/6/2008	Dep	Gary Wilson		\$20.00	\$4,684.63	Reg Dues 2009 Pending
	Dep	DAVID HUSTON VIA GREG KITCHAK		\$10.00	\$4,694.63	Reg Dues 2008
	Dep	GREG KITCHAK		\$30.00	\$4,724.63	Reg Dues 2010
	Dep	Ben Franske		\$20.00	\$4,744.63	Reg Dues 2009
	Dep	John Swanson		\$20.00	\$4,764.63	Reg Dues 2009
	Dep	ED JACOBSON		\$20.00	\$4,784.63	Reg Dues 2009
	Dep	TCRC/Ivan Frantz		\$10.00	\$4,794.63	Reg Dues 2008
5/14/2008	DEP	MIKE SCHWENDEMAN		\$20.00	\$4,814.63	Reg Dues 2009
	Dep	Robert Kaliszewski		\$20.00	\$4,834.63	Reg Dues 2011
6/25/2008	Dep	Keith Mobarry		\$20.00	\$4,854.63	Reg Dues 2010
6/25/2008	2084	Postmaster	\$84.75		\$4,769.88	Postage Fall mailings
7/8/2008	2085	Jerry Dorf	\$45.22		\$4,724.66	Paper/envelopes/labels
7/28/2008	Dep	Art Carlson /ST Cloud ARC		\$10.00	\$4,734.66	Reg Dues 2008
8/4/2008	2086	Pair Networks	\$120.89		\$4,613.77	Web hosting
9/2/2008		Art Carlson /ST Cloud ARC		\$50.00	\$4,663.77	Reg Dues 2013
		Don Hengemuehle		\$10.00	\$4,673.77	Reg Dues 2010
		Jeffery N Clarine		\$10.00	\$4,683.77	Reg Dues 2009

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. Receives all mailings.
- 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: 2008 2009 2010 2011 2012 2013 2014 2015 2016 2017 2018 2019 2020 2021 2022

Agenda
Minnesota Repeater Council General meeting
Fall 2008

I. Call to order 1:30 PM

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

II. Reports

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

III Individual Announcements

- A. Midwinter Madness, March 28, 2009

IV. Applications for membership

- A.

V. Old business.

- A. 900Mhz bandplan
- B. Evaluate fesibility of full duplex links in 440Mhz bandplan.

VI. New business

- A. IRS Tax status
- B.

VII. Spring Meeting, Outstate location

VIII. Election of Officers

IV. Adjournment

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 if 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.