



Minnesota Repeater Council

Fall 2011 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

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

Alan Knutson, WBØZKB

User Liaison

Lion Templin, KB9ENE

THE FALL MRC MEETING

Will be held

Saturday

October 22, 2011

at

Maple Grove

Fire Station 2

13450 Maple Knoll Way

Maple Grove MN

Registration at 12:00 Noon

Call to order at 1:00PM

Directions and parking
info is located on page 2

NO Refreshments will be
provided so plan accordingly.

If you have questions regarding
your repeater coordination or
membership please email or ask
before the meeting date!

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.

The NFCC board hasn't had an election in a few years. Because of that, I'm still listed as the president. That means I get phone calls.

The biggest cause of frustration for repeater owners is coordinators that won't respond to contacts. They seem to crop up all over the country. Lately, I've had several complaints from different parts of the country, all dealing with this issue.

Yes, being a coordinator's a volunteer job. Yes, real life often gets in the way. Yes, there can be a mountain of work involved, especially in bodies with lots of coordinations issued that renew them annually.

Even so, it's a job that can't be left without some response to requests for months on end. Things change in ham radio: repeater owners sell machines, or lose interest, or (all too often any more) die. Other hams get into the amateur service and want to put up new systems. It's a constant, though low-level, state of flux.

A nonresponsive coordinator is a bottleneck to all of this. It frustrates hams no end when they need something done and can't even contact the coordinator, or when they can, nothing ever actually gets done. They, naturally, go looking for help.

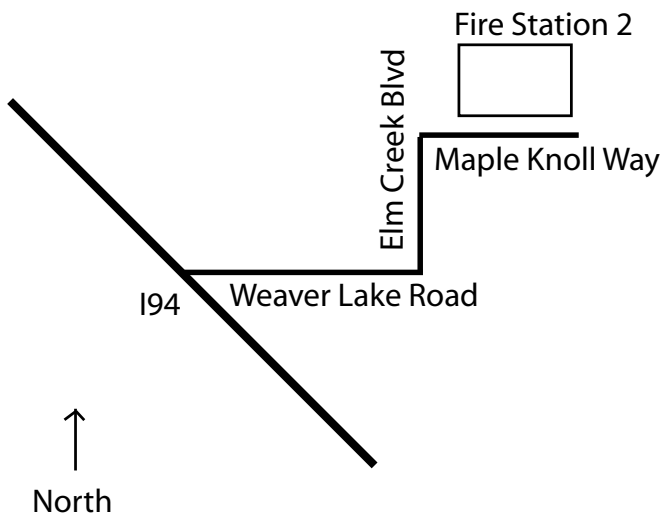
Continued Page 2

Directions to Maple Grove Fire Station 2

Take Interstate 94 to exit 215 Weaver Lake Road (County Road 109) head East to Elm Creek Blvd, turn north at the McDonalds. Proceed to Maple Knoll Way turn right the fire station is located on the left.

Park in the upper parking lot next to the church, do not enter the lower lot beyond the do not enter signs.

This meeting is being hosted by the Maple Grove Radio Club and Maple Grove Fire.



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I had hoped, when I became involved, that the NFCC would be that vehicle for help. Instead, several of the members screamed so loudly when I tried that the organization is essentially pointless. The rules are defined in such a way that it's essentially impossible to reach any sort of a decision, much less take action against a member coordinator.

I have to tell folks coming to me for help that there isn't any, and that there's no accountability whatsoever for frequency coordinators except to their own membership - if they are a membership organization. Nobody appoints them, so nobody can remove them when they fail to get the job done.

Don't get me wrong. The majority of coordinators are conscientious folks who do what it takes to keep things moving. We're fortunate in Minnesota that Jerry is one. The folks who just sit on things, though, make us all look bad.

I wish I had an answer, but I don't see one.

-- Jay Maynard, K5ZC

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!

Secretary, Treasurers & Coordinators Notes

On the air repeaters! When you list your repeater as being on the air on your update form this data gets published for everyone to look at. This includes new hams who may have just purchased a radio, programmed up there new radio and are now attempting to access your repeater. If your system is not really on the air or never has been, are we helping out the new people who do not know if their equipment or antenna is working correctly?

I have had a couple of people point out there are a number of systems in the state that have not been on the air for quite some time, yet the responsible party just keeps listing them as on the air. One person in northern MN uses a UHF pair as his personal simplex frequency and publicly states it on QRZ.com Bottom line is we need to be honest in filling out the forms and if your not going to use a frequency return it. We have come along way in eliminating paper repeaters in the last couple of years and this should be the next step

Fall update process: On August 1 I mailed approximately 160 update requests, as of Aug 20 I have received 69 back. So far there have not been any major changes to any repeater and no returns due to bad addresses or moves from the post office.

As a reminder, if you move, change phone numbers, email etc you can file updates anytime of the year. This helps make the fall updates go faster.

Hot Weather: Due to the high humidity and heat this summer, I have found that printing envelopes on the laser printer often seals them. Some of our envelopes have self-sealed sitting in storage so my stockpiling them in the future is being evaluated. I suspect we may have lost 2-300 envelopes.

I also overestimated the number of stamps I would need for the update and newsletter mailing so we have enough forever stamps on hand for the spring newsletter mailing.

Coordination activities have been slow, very few new repeaters and overall activity within the region.

As Jay mentioned the MRC is a group of volunteers, we have a life outside of the MRC. This past year, I have had my hands full with my full time job in commercial 2-way, working on bylaws for the KOLTC.org aka Maple Grove Radio club. Not to mention chairing the Midwinter Madness hamfest and upgrading a aging spectrum repeater with new equipment. As such sometimes coordination requests or inquires have taken a couple of days longer than usual.

As this goes to print, WAR is having there share of challenges within their organization. They are facing the some of the challenges we had several years ago, check the WAR webpage for the newsletter at: <http://www.wi-repeaters.org/>

They will be meeting in Appleton WI on Sept 10, 2011

See you in Maple Grove on October 22

Jerry, N0FWG

**Minutes of the
Minnesota Repeater Council**

Spring meeting held On April 9, 2011
Owatonna Fire Station, Owatonna MN

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

Quorum was met with a total of 56 members in good standing on the roster, 22 in attendance, 7 non-metro at the start of the meeting.

Chairman's Report: Jay Maynard K5ZC

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

Frequency coordinator: Jerry Dorf N0FWG
Reports presented to membership in the newsletter, and handout.

Technical Committee: Alan Knutson
Nothing to report

New Members:
Erik Brom, WB0NIU Regular member
David Wegner, WB0VAK Regular member

Motion to approve, seconded motion passed

Old Business:

Coordination Policy Committee: Ben Franske has completed the coordination policy document with the changes that were noted at the fall meeting. It will be placed on the MRC website as a PDF file, if anyone finds errors or items that need to be updated or amended please contact one of the committee members.

New Business:

Gordy Hanson, N0ZRD made a request for data from the coordination database. The data would be used to locate possible repeaters to use for the MSTRam bike ride events. Before using the those repeaters he would contact the trustees to obtain permission to use. Motion was made to approve the request with a non-disclosure agreement and limit the data to the minimum amount required. Use of this data will be limited to the 2011 events. Motion was seconded and approved

Fall Meeting: Metro location:

Board will find a location in the Metro, option for Bloomington Fire Dept and other location.

Meeting Adjourned at 1:47PM

Jerry Dorf, N0FWG
Secretary Treasurer
Minnesota Repeater Council, Inc

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 the 2nd Tuesday of the month.

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 2009 is paid up till Dec 31, 2009

Membership types listed on the envelope

REG	Regular member	ASC	Associate member
NL	Newsletter only	SPL	Special / comp
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.

Minnesota Repeater Council Checking Account

August 20, 2011

Date	Type	Description	Debit	Credit	Balance	Comments
3/22/2011	Dep	Richard Auld/TCFMC		\$10.00	\$5,771.31	Reg Dues 2015
	Dep	STEVE CSIZMADIA		\$10.00	\$5,781.31	Reg Dues 2011
	Dep	Michael Langer		\$20.00	\$5,801.31	Reg Dues 2012
3/30/2011	2114	Hennepin Health Foundation	\$75.00		\$5,726.31	Donation HHF Burn Unit /Bloom FD
4/4/2011	Dep	Tomas Svihel		\$10.00	\$5,736.31	Reg Dues 2011
4/11/2011	DEP	David Kellner		\$10.00	\$5,746.31	Reg Dues 2011
4/12/2011	DEP	DAVID WEGNER		\$10.00	\$5,756.31	REG DUES 2011
	DEP	MATT GENELIN		\$100.00	\$5,856.31	Reg Dues 2020
	DEP	DAVID KLEINDL		\$10.00	\$5,866.31	Reg Dues 2011
	DEP	Gordon Hanson		\$20.00	\$5,886.31	Reg Dues 2012
	DEP	Tomas Carlson /Smarts		\$10.00	\$5,896.31	Reg Dues 2012
	DEP	Chris Buck TCRC		\$20.00	\$5,916.31	Reg Dues 2012
	DEP	John Czech		\$20.00	\$5,936.31	Reg Dues 2014
	DEP	PATRICK TICE		\$10.00	\$5,946.31	Reg Dues 2011
	DEP	MATT ARTHUR		\$10.00	\$5,956.31	Reg Dues 2011
	DEP	ALAN KNUTSON		\$10.00	\$5,966.31	Reg Dues 2011
	DEP	Bob Bliss		\$10.00	\$5,976.31	Reg Dues 2011
	DEP	ARRL		\$302.00	\$6,278.31	Repeater Directory payment
4/30/2011	DEP	David Furman		\$30.00	\$6,308.31	Reg Dues 2013
7/30/2011	2015	VOID VOID			\$6,308.31	VOID VOID
7/30/2011	2016	USPS	\$136.00		\$6,172.31	Postage Fall mailings
7/31/2011	2017	Office Max	\$45.58		\$6,126.73	#10 Window envelopes/labels
8/1/2011	2018	Pair Networks	\$120.89		\$6,005.84	Web hosting

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.

Waiting list

Name	Call	Group	Band	Use	Location	Date
Alan Knutson	WB0ZKB		2M	DSTAR	Chaska/West	04/28/07
Paul Emeott	K0LAV		2M	FM	Gem Lake	10/19/09

New Coordinations

LOCAT	CALL	IN	OUT	TRUSTEE	CALL	AREA	CORDATE
KELLIEA	W0BJI	146.2200	146.8200	PAUL BUNYAN AMATEUR	W0BJI	NC	8/11/2011
MARCELL	KD6FFN	147.8550	147.2550	LARRY C SCHAAR	KD6FFN	NE	7/1/2011
STATEWIDE	WG0C	448.7000	443.7000	DON HEPPELMANN	WG0C	STA	5/29/2011
ROCHESTER	NZ0S	448.4500	443.4500	JOHN SOMHEIL	NZ0S	SE	3/12/2011
WANDA MN	KD0IAI	449.0250	444.0250	JOHN KROHN	KB0CGJ	SW	2/9/2011
COLUMBIA HTS	N0FKM	449.5500	444.5500	DAN SWEE	N0FKM	MET	2/8/2011
DEER RIVER	KD0JFI	146.0250	146.6250	LARRY C SCHAAR	KD6FFN	NE	2/8/2011
CROMWELL	N0GGF	146.3100	146.9100	GEORGE G FISHER SR	N0GGF	NE	1/31/2011
AURORA	N0BZZ	147.8400	147.2400	RANDY HAGLIN	N0BZZ	NE	1/10/2011
CARLTON	KC0RTX	146.1900	146.7900	RANDY SCOTT	KC0RTX	EC	1/10/2011
MAPLE LAKE	W0EQO	144.8700	145.4700	PATRICK TICE	WA0TDA	CEN	1/10/2011
MOUNDSVIEW	W0ANA	144.8050	145.4050	ROSS DEMEYERE	W0FTX	MET	1/10/2011
WYOMING	N0VOW	146.2950	146.8950	BRUCE WILLIAMS	N0VOW	CEN	1/10/2011
FRIDLEY	KD5DLJ	449.7250	444.7250	DENNY JOHNSON	KD5DLJ	MET	1/8/2011

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 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.
Dues \$10.00 year
- Associate Member 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.
Dues \$ 5.00 year
- 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 Fax available upon req
jerryd@jerryd.net

of years Paid: _____

Total Amount: _____

Check #: _____

Name on Check: _____

Other Info: _____

Membership Approval Granted: _____ Date: _____

Dues Paid for: 2011 2012 2013 2014 2015 2016 2017 2018 2019 2020 2021 2022 2023 2024 2025 2026

Agenda
Minnesota Repeater Council General meeting
Fall 2011

I. Call to order 1:00 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 31, 2012

IV. Applications for membership

- A.

V. Old business.

- A.
- B.
- C.
- D.

VI. New business

- A.
- B.

VII. Spring Meeting, Non-Metro location

VIII. Election of officers

- A. Appointments

VIII. 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 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.