

Tri County Repeater Association

March 2002

<http://www.tcra.org/>

2002 Officers

At the December Christmas Party officers for 2002 were elected. President is KA9GNG Bill Noble; Vice President is W9RAY Ray Johnson, Secretary KB9TYC Paul Brooten, and Treasurer AB9EJ Mike Metzdorf. If you have any questions relating to the club you can email the officers at officers@tcra.org.

Polls on the Website

At the February meeting it was decided to poll the members on a few issues. These polls will be available on the clubs website at <http://www.tcra.org>. Once you get there click on the "Message Board" link on the left side of the screen. To get to the polls you will need to register on the message board. Once you do that I will set you up to get into them. The reason for this is so it will be controlled and people will only be able to vote once and not click the same answer multiple times. Also only members will be able to vote. If you have email you should have received a message to sign up. As of this date, 4 people have done that.

The polls that will be on the website are: 1. should we combine our newsletters with other area clubs? 2. How should we vote for officers?

There will be more but that is all that's up right now. Any questions contact kb9tyc at kb9tyc@tcra.org.

April Meeting

The April meeting of the Tri County Repeater Association will be held Tuesday April 2nd at Jon Henry's in Cornell. All members are encouraged to attend.

Newsletter Submissions

All members are encouraged to submit items for the newsletter. If you have anything to put in the newsletter please send it to kb9tyc@tcra.org or to: Paul Brooten, 2328 14th Ave, Cameron WI 54822. I apologize for the delay in sending the newsletter out. I need about 2 more hours each day to do everything I need to do.

WSJT by W9RAY

WSJT is the name of a computer program. It stands for "Weak Signal Communications, by K1JT." The first mode implemented, and the one that has given WSJT its wide popularity, is called FSK441. It is designed for high speed meteor scatter (HSMS) communication using "pings" reflected from the under dense ionization trails of random meteors at approximately 100 km height. Such pings are typically a few dB above the noise and last for anywhere from ten to a few hundred milliseconds. QSOs can be successful with modest equipment and without waiting for "band openings." W9RAY has had good success on 6 meters with the 5 element yagi and 70 watts out. And some success on 2 meters with 8 element yagi and 90 watts, with both antennas up 15 feet in the city. Contacts from 400-1200 miles have been made on "dead" bands any time of the day in less than a half hour. 6 meters is much easier than 2 meters. WSJT/JT44 mode. New version 1.9.4 just released on 03-22-02 Lets you copy signals -18db below noise for EME/Tropo use. It is still in Beta stage of development. Program is available free from the author Joe K1JT at <http://pulsar.princeton.edu/~joe/K1JT/> (you need the whole program) The update files are here: <http://pulsar.princeton.edu/~joe/K1JT/BETA194.TXT>

For more help with WSJT you can contact Ray at w9ray@tcra.org.

Email and Address Updates

Please check the roster and make sure that I have your mailing address and email address correct. If there are any changes you can contact me at kb9tyc@tcra.org or leave a message at (715) 491-5792. That number should be a local call for the majority of the members.

Eau Claire Hamfest
Saturday, April 20th
Eau Claire Exposition Center
Doors Open at 8:00 A.M.
Admission: \$5.00, Tables: \$8.00 Each
For More Information See:
<http://www.ecarc.org/>