Tri County Repeater Association

Volume 7, Issue 1 February 2003

December Meeting & Christmas Party

December 3rd. 2002

Paul Brooten - KB9TYC

The December meeting and Christmas party was held December 3rd, 2002 at N9XMU's residence in Chippewa Falls. Members attending the event were: N9LUG, W9NG, W9RAY, N9XMU, KA9GNG, AB9EJ, KC9CGW, W9BBJ, W9GDH, N9UXH, and KB9TYC. There were no guests present.

Old Business

Dale, N9XMU was looking for alternate net control operators as he is not able to make it every Thursday night. There were no volunteers but Mike, AB9EJ and Bill; KA9GNG said they would be willing to assist if available.

Discussion about discontinuing the net during the summer months was disagreed on by the majority of the members present. AB9EJ advised it would be difficult starting the net back up in the fall after taking

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Wisconsin Interstate Network

New Repeaters in Eau Claire and Rice Lake.

Paul Brooten - KB9TYC

The Wisconsin Interstate Network is a linked repeater system being put together by Len Kreyer, N9QIP of Arlington, WI. When complete the system will have 13 UHF repeaters and 1 VHF repeater. This system will cover from Rockford, IL to north of Rice Lake, WI when complete.

Eau Claire and Rice Lake Repeaters

The Eau Claire repeater will be on 442.800 and will have a PL tome of 110.9. This system is currently under construction and it is not known when it will be on the air.

The Rice Lake repeater went on the air on December 19th, 2002. The frequency is 442.100 and a PL tone of 110.9 is required. The Rice Lake repeater is located in the blue hills and has excellent coverage.

Other System Information

This system will also be linked to the new 147.000 located in Galesville, WI. One feature of this linked system is that Amateurs can connect using Echolink. Echolink is a voice over ip program that allows amateurs from all over world can connect via the internet into the system. There is also a net that happens Monday evenings at 8:00 p.m. on the repeaters that are linked together.

To learn more about this system go to the Wisconsin Interstate Network website at http://www.skywavetower.com/WIN/.

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the summer off. AB9EJ also said it would be better to miss the net once in a while rather than stopping for the summer.

N9XMU advised he has tried to contact Walt, N9LIE about the status of the antenna on the 145.470 repeater. N9XMU advised he has not received any response from Walt yet. AB9EJ advised that Walt has permission to purchase a new antenna and other items for the repeater if needed. All Walt has to do is turn the receipts over to the club and we will pay the expenses.

It was decided at the October meeting that our meetings will be held at Ruby's Roadhouse in Bloomer. The location is east of Kwik Trip on STH 40.

Treasurer's Report

AB9EJ gave the treasurers report. AB9EJ advised at the October meeting we had \$1,792.79 in our account. The only expense since then was \$150.00 to Amateur Electronic Supply in Milwaukee for the door prize for the Christmas party. AB9EJ also made known that AES donated three \$10.00 gift certificates for door prizes at the Christmas party.

New Business

There was no new business.

Election of Officers

KA9GNG took nominations for Treasurer. AB9EJ was nominated and accepted the position for another year. KA9GNG took nominations for Secretary. Paul, KB9TYC accepted and will be Secretary another year. KA9GNG took nominations for Vice President. Ray, W9RAY and N9XMU were nominated. A vote was taken by raising hands and W9RAY won with the majority of votes. KA9GNG took nominations for President. KA9GNG and N9XMU were nominated. A vote was taken by raising hands and N9XMU came out ahead with 6 votes. The President for 2003 will be N9XMU.

Door Prize Winners

Door prizes were given at the Christmas Party. The grand prize was a \$150.00 gift certificate for AES. AES donated three \$10.00 gift certificates and 2 engraved callsign nameplates were donated by

QSLUSA engraving. Winners of the \$10.00 gift certificates were W9NG, AB9EJ, and W9RAY. Winners of the engraved nameplates were W9GDH and KC9CGW. The winner of the \$150.00 AES gift certificate was KC9CGW.

Next Meeting

The next meeting will be held February 4th, 2003 at Ruby's Roadhouse in Bloomer at 7:00 p.m.❖

UPCOMING EVENTS

TRI COUNTY REPEATER ASSOCIATION FEBRUARY MEETING

PLACE: RUBY'S ROADHOUSE IN BLOOMER

DATE: FEBRUARY 4TH, 2003.

TIME: 7:00 P.M.

RED CEDAR REPEATER ASSOCIATION AUCTION

PLACE: 634 WATER ST. EAU CLAIRE, WI

DATE: FEBRUARY 18TH, 2003.

TIME: 7:00 P.M.

Annual RCRA auction at the American Legion in Eau Claire.

Admission is \$3.00 or paid RCRA membership.

NWS SKYWARN TRAINING

PLACE: BARRON COUNTY COURTHOUSE AUDITORIUM

DATE: MARCH 10TH, 2003. TIME: 1:00 P.M. & 7:00 P.M.

Storm spotter training conducted by the National Weather

Service.

2003 TCRA Officers

President: Dale McGraw – N9XMU

Vice President: Ray Johnson – W9RAY

Secretary: Paul Brooten – KB9TYC

Treasurer: Mike Metzdorf – AB9EJ

http://www.tcra.org

ARRL Now Provides FCC License Renewal, Address Changes, Mods to Nonmembers

http://www.arrl.org

(Jan 1, 2003) -- The ARRL has announced that it's now providing FCC Amateur Radio license renewals, address changes and other license modification services to nonmembers. For a \$12 fee, the League will renew a nonmember's Amateur Radio ticket (the license must be within 90 days of expiration), file an application to change address or name or request issuance of a new sequential call sign.

The ARRL Volunteer Examiner Coordinator is processing these applications. "The \$12 is in line with our calendar year 2003 exam application fee," said ARRL VEC Manager Bart Jahnke, W9JJ. For several years, the ARRL has been handling renewals, address and name changes and modifications free of charge for members and has directed nonmembers to the FCC's free Internet or hard-copy application options or to other providers of such services. Jahnke suggests that nonmembers who now choose to employ the League's application handling service also consider adding \$27 (based on the current under-65 full term member rate of \$39) for a full ARRL membership that includes free application handling and other services--not to mention QST. Members or nonmembers taking advantage of this service should submit NCVEC Form 605 to ARRL VEC, 225 Main St. Newington CT 06111 USA for processing. Nonmembers should make the \$12 fee payable to "ARRL." For more information, contact ARRL VEC, vec@arrl.org.

Mike's Code Corner

Mike Metzdorf - AB9EJ

The following is some code that has a message. Some of you will find this very easy, others will find it educational, and others won't bother at all. That's ok. Have fun anyway.

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Did you get it? I hope so.

73 AB9EJ

See The Answer In The Next Newsletter.