

WISCONSIN ASSOCIATION OF REPEATERS



March 2007
Newsletter

Member: Mid-America Coordination Council
Founding Member: National Frequency Coordination Council

From the Assistant Coordinator

Here is a recap of the 2006 renewals: 186 Renewal letters were mailed on August 15th and 117 (63%) were received by the due date of September 15th, with an additional 18 received by September 30th. On October 1st, 51 "Second Notice" renewal letters were mailed with 35 were received by the Oct. 21st due date. Sixteen certified letters were sent to the non-respondents on November 6th. (Three of those had also received a "Second Notice" letter in 2005, and six had received certified letters in 2005.) Three of the 16 did not respond and were subsequently de-coordinated.

The following repeaters were de-coordinated:

KD9UU 443.6750 North Freedom
N9OSK 443.0500 Milwaukee
KB9EBX 444.8500 Tomah

To those of you who responded promptly, thank you. To the rest, we have tried to make renewals a simple process. All you need to do is review it, correct it if needed, sign and return the form. Sending the Second Notices and certified letters is extra work and expense, please return your renewal forms promptly.

If you're concerned about your coordination, please view the listings on the W.A.R. web site. I update the on-line listings periodically (note the date of the posting at the top of the page). If your repeater's not listed, you either failed to notify me when it was put on-the-air after you received your coordination letter, or you told us it was temporarily off the air and failed to let me know when it was again made operational. Please note, renewal forms are sent for operational repeaters only.

A few of you include a cover letter with your renewal form to confirm that the repeater conforms to the data in the renewal form. This is unnecessary, as that is already stated where you sign your name on the renewal form.

A comment on the renewal forms. In previous years you needed to manually complete the two-page coordination form for the annual renewal for each of your repeaters. Now WAR is generating a renewal form that contains the pertinent details of each repeater's technical

**Next W.A.R. Meeting:
Saturday March 17th, 2007
1:00 PM**

**Offices of the
American Red Cross
Appleton, WI**

1302 E. Wisconsin Ave.
Appleton, WI 54911

details. This form also has bar codes on it. The bar codes point to entries in the database for the repeater, the holder of coordination and the primary contact (the person receiving the renewal form). By scanning this bar code we can quickly, and accurately, access the database and update the repeater's coordination date, as well as the contact information for the HOC and primary contact with the repeater. With well over 300 repeaters and nearly 200 links in the database the bar codes greatly speed up the process on our end, as well as help ensure accuracy in handling the numerous renewals. Please return the original renewal form that was sent to you the bar codes on a copy or one printed from a scanned image in an e-mail do not scan and will not be accepted.

If you are the Holder of Coordination for a repeater, you need to stay in touch with the person who is your primary contact, and notify WAR whenever there is a change in your, or your primary contact person's, address, phone number, e-mail address, etc. In each of the past three renewal years there have been instances where the primary contact person has e-mailed me that they are no longer associated with the repeater. They have thrown away the renewal form rather than forwarded it to someone still involved with the repeater, told me to send coordination issues to the club but failed to give a name or address, and generally they've totally dropped any interest or concern about the repeater's coordination.

The following repeaters had been issued a coordination. However WAR was never notified that they were constructed. Letters were sent on 10/1/2006 inquiring as to the status of these repeaters; however, no

response was received. Therefore, these coordinations have been dropped:

	Coordination Date
N9RSU 223.8200 Cable	9/12/2004
W9ZFX 444.2750 Marinette	1/9/2006
N9EJO 443.6250 Meno Falls	10/23/2004
N9OSK 444.8250 Milwaukee	8/23/2001
N9GLT 444.8750 Wausaukee	11/30/2004

When you contact WAR regarding a repeater PLEASE, PLEASE, PLEASE identify the repeater by its callsign, transmit frequency and city. That ensures we're both talking about the same repeater, and lets us quickly find the repeater in the database (which has over 300 repeaters and nearly 200 links). While knowing your name, your callsign or a club's name can be marginally useful, it's having the repeater's callsign, transmit frequency and city that makes our job easier. I've received a letter saying "the repeater system is on the air" and signed by name only, no callsign or city. I've also received letters discussing (for example) the Paducah 45 repeater, or just the PARA repeater. Neither adequately identifies a repeater. Maybe the local users of a repeater all know what's being referred to when they call it the Paducah 45, but the rest of the world doesn't. Please help me to help you.

Milt N9WSZ

List of Officers & Appointments

Chairman - Gary Bargholz, N9UUR
8273 N. 53rd Street, Brown Deer, WI 53223
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Vice-Chairman - Dan Bolander WB9TYT
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Secretary - Mark Helmmerrmann, KF9CS
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Treasurer - Jim Sheetz, K9OQO
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Frequency Coordinator - Dave Karr, KA9FUR
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Asst. Coordinator - Milt Klingsporn, N9WSZ
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<http://www.wi-repeaters.org>

**Wisconsin Association of Repeaters
November 11, 2006
Meeting Minutes**

The meeting was called to order at 1:10 p.m. by the Chairman, Gary Bargholz. It was held at Brisco County Wood Grill in Menomonee Falls, Wisconsin.

Introduction of members and guests:

N9UUR Gary Bargholz, Chairman
WB9TYT Dan Bolander, Vice Chairman
K9OQO Jim Sheetz, Treasurer
N9WSZ Milt Klingsporn, Asst. Coordinator
KA9WXN David Schank
W9BLS Barry Sprifke
KG9CW Bob Bieszk
W9MQD Mauri Heppe
KB9RCG Margie Klingsporn
WA9JOB Nels Harvey
W9ORN Barb Hughes
K9JAC Jack Hughes
N9VSV Jeananne Bargholz

Secretary's Report:

There were no additions or corrections to the minutes as printed in the newsletter. Milt, N9WSZ moved that the minutes be approved as printed and Jeananne, N9VSV seconded. The minutes were approved by unanimous consent.

Treasurer's Report:

Jim, K9OQO, W.A.R. Treasurer provided a report showing a balance of \$4,692.66 and no outstanding expenses. Jim explained that a debit error noted was due to a bank error. Nels, WA9JOB moved that the Treasurer's Report be approved and Dan, WB9TYT seconded. The report was approved by unanimous consent.

Membership Communication:

Gary, N9UUR reported that the W.A.R. Webmaster, Dave Knaus, N9QA, has stepped down from the position. All present agreed that Dave has done a great job in maintaining the website. It was suggested that a note of thanks should be sent. Gary said he will undertake the Webmaster duties.

Gary also reminded everyone that newsletter articles should be submitted to n9uur@wi-repeaters.org at least 30 days before the next meeting date.

WAR maintains a reflector at war@mailman.qth.net. The reflector allows for general discussions among the membership. There has been little activity on the reflector except for newsletter and meeting announcements.

Coordination Issues:

Dave Carr, KA9FUR, W.A.R. Frequency Coordinator was unable to attend. Milt, N9WSZ, Assistant Frequency Coordinator provided an update:

Milt talked about the coordination process. After submitting a coordination request, W.A.R. will confirm the request with a letter. The coordination letter states that one has six months to put the repeater on the air and W.A.R. must be notified when that is accomplished. If the repeater is not ready in six months, W.A.R.

must be notified with a construction extension request.

The following repeaters were issued coordination letters. However, W.A.R. was never notified that they were constructed. Follow-up letters were sent inquiring as to the status of these repeaters but no response was received. Therefore these coordinations have been dropped:

Callsign	TX Freq.	City	Coord. Date
N9RSU	223.8200	Cable	9/12/2004
W9ZFX	444.2750	Marinette	1/9/2006
N9EJO	443.6250	Meno Falls	10/23/2004
N9OSK	444.8250	Milwaukee	8/23/2001
N9GLT	444.8750	Wausaukee	11/30/2004

Milt also reported that 187 renewal letters were mailed in August and 135 renewals were received by (or close to) the due date of September 15. On October 1, 52 second-notice renewal letters were mailed and 35 renewals were received by the October 21 due date. Certified letters were then sent on November 6 and if there is no response by November 28, the following repeaters will be de-coordinated:

Callsign	TX Freq.	City
K9EAM	147.3600	Green Bay *
K9EAM	444.7750	Green Bay *
K9LO	147.2400	Oshkosh
KA9WXN	145.250	Milwaukee
KB0TNB	53.0900	Bayfield **
KB9EBX	444.8500	Tomah
KB9S	145.350	Pepin *
KB9VMC	145.310	Baraboo
KD9UU	443.6750	North Freedom **
N9LKH	145.130	Milwaukee
N9LKH	443.5500	Milwaukee *
N9LSK	443.0500	Milwaukee **
W9BCY	147.3150	Ashland **
W9BCY	146.6100	Bayfield **
W9EIL	147.0300	Friendship
W9FK	145.1700	Brookfield
W9RH	145.3900	Milwaukee **
WB9FDZ	147.3150	Baraboo **

*Second-Notice sent in 2005

**Second-Notice and Certified De-Coordination letter sent in 2005

Discussion then turned to Digital Mode Repeaters and whether or not they could be "close-spaced coordinated." Dan, WB9TYT said that W.A.R. exists to protect all repeater coordination. Milt, N9WSZ said that this topic was discussed at the Minnesota Repeater group meeting where they concluded that there wasn't enough bandwidth. Jack, K9JAC added that this was included in a popular seminar at Dayton and, 'what if everyone went D-Star?' which led to comments about the expense of digital node repeaters; static IP addresses; and control issues. Dan also questioned 'what if current repeater owners want to change their FM repeater to D-Star or P25?' Gary, N9UUR, did not think that close-spacing digital mode repeaters would work well in-between existing repeaters and said digital repeaters should be allocated frequencies as any other repeater. Rules have been in place for a

number of years now and besides, there have been no requests for digital coordination at this time. SERA (The SouthEastern Repeater Association) coordinates digital repeaters as any other repeater with the understanding that they're researching this issue and repeaters may need to move in the future. W.A.R. will watch what our counterparts are doing and will work closely with neighboring coordination associations. This is however something that we should research and give careful planning for in future.

Gary reported that the FCC has proposed changes to the rules about 2 meter linking. The change pertains to auxiliary stations and remote control above 144.500 - but not in the satellite sub band. These changes will be in effect soon. Does W.A.R. need to coordinate this change? Should W.A.R. be coordinating Echo link or IRLP?

Gary, N9UUR, restated W.A.R.'s position from many previous meetings, that it is not W.A.R.'s job to be coordinating anything outside of the repeater section of the band plan.

Chairman's Issues:

Gary began by stating that there really hasn't been much to talk about lately. W.A.R. is running smoothly. Membership attendance at meetings has been down. As was discussed at the June 2006 meeting and posted in the newsletter, should W.A.R. be meeting twice a year instead of three times a year? Dan, WB9TYT moved that W.A.R. reduce the number of meetings a year from three to two. The March meeting would be held in Appleton and the Fall meeting would alternate between Milwaukee and Eau Claire. Jim, K9OQO seconded. The motion was passed by unanimous consent.

Gary also indicated that the W.A.R. treasury was increasing. As was mentioned at the June 2006 meeting and posted in the newsletter, should W.A.R. officers be reimbursed for fuel to travel to meetings that are more than 60 miles from home? Dave, KA9WXN so moved and Nels, WA9JOB seconded. The motion was passed by unanimous consent.

New Business:

Nels, WA9JOB moved that \$50.00 should be sent to Allen Waller in support of his maintenance of QTH.net - home of W.A.R.'s e-mail reflector. Mr. Waller does not charge for the use of his services but accepts donations. Milt, N9WSZ so moved and Nels, WA9JOB seconded. The motion was passed by unanimous consent.

Next meeting:

The next meeting will be held on March 17 in Appleton.

Milt, N9WSZ motioned for adjournment of the meeting and Dan, WB9TYT seconded.

Gary, N9UUR closed the meeting at 2:10 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Jeananne Bargholz (N9VSV)
Wisconsin Association of Repeaters, Secretary
Pro Tem