

## GMARC MEETING MINUTES 19-DEC-06

Prior to the meeting the *Traditional Pizza & Pop Social* began at 6:30 PM. Hot-N-Ready Pizza from Little Caesars (in *many* flavors) was delivered by Scott W1BIC. Coke, Diet Coke, and Sprite in iced-down cans were delivered by Bobby N8CY. Hot coffee was also available – courtesy of the “Blue Bucket Guy” Ray KD8CXY. Huge amounts of Pizza and significant amounts of Pop were consumed by members and Visitors present. Those present generously donated \$52.50 to defray the cost of this social to the Club. Fellowship and techno-babble prevailed, and a good time was had by all.

**I. Call to Order** by President, Scott W1BIC at 7:02 PM.

### **II. Introductions & Upgrades**

The following visitors were introduced:

No Call – Mike A.  
N8ZI – Tom Tinckell

There were no upgrade announced.

### **III. Minutes**

Copies of the minutes from the 21-Nov-06 meeting were available at the meeting and on the GMARC Web Site. Motion to approve the November Minutes by Rich K8OX and seconded by Larry N8WJ. Motion passed.

### **IV. Treasurer’s Report**

T.J. N8RUH was not present, however his reports for November and December were given by Bobby N8CY. The November bank balance (including pending transactions) was \$826.96. The December bank balance (including one un-deposited check) is \$973.00.

### **V. Membership Report** by Bobby N8CY

We have 72 members who have paid their 2006 dues, and 24 have also paid their 2007 dues (including those noted below). The following members paid their 2007 dues at his meeting:

K8PJQ – Rich  
KD8CRA – Larry  
KE6YRC – Hugh  
N1FCK – Greg  
N5WCS – Mike  
W1IK – Jim  
W8PIE – Ray  
W8RLV – Robert (thru 2008)  
W8SOX – Larry  
WB9FJO – Ben  
WI8C - Dave

### **VI. Nets and Newsletter** by Dave W8RIT

Dave W8RIT reported that the Dec-06 Edition of **The Transmission Line** has been published to the Web Site. Copies were available at the meeting. He still needs articles for future editions. The InfoNet from 18-Dec-06 had 9 Check-ins. For calendar year 2006 the

average number of check-ins per week was 10.5 vs. the goal of 15. W8RIT encouraged members to “tune-in” whenever possible to meet this goal in 2007.

A Certificate of Recognition was presented to Chuck N8ZA for “Perfect Attendance” – having checked-in **every week** to the InfoNet during 2006.

Bobby N8CY noted the **fine job** done by W8RIT in publishing the GMARC Newsletter in 2006. There was a rousing round of applause (that could be heard as far away as St. Clair County). Bill W8WRB noted that W8RIT has been named the Assistant Emergency Coordinator for St. Clair County. Congratulations Dave!

## VII. Club Liaison Report

Mike N5WCS reported that the Hazel Park Swap will be 21-Jan-07.

Scott W1BIC reported that the Milford ARC has provided a free table to GMARC for their Swap in Apr -07.

## VIII. Tech Committee Report

Chuck N8ZA reported that both repeaters operational, and there have been no recent issues reported.

## IX. Old Business

Scott W1BIC noted that all Emergency Radio vests approved to be sold to members at the 21-Nov-06 meeting have been delivered. All have been paid for (except as noted below). \$120 was delivered to the Treasurer for vests paid for to date. The five members who purchased vests are:

W8RIT – Dave  
N8EB – Keith (Still owes \$30 to the Treasurer)  
KC8WPW – Rich U.  
KD8CXY – Ray  
KD8DHS – Wes

## X. President's Remarks

Scott W1BIC noted that the Club is very fortunate to have a meeting room for our Monthly Meetings provided by Trinity Lutheran Church. All dates for 2007 meetings have been reserved in the Lecture Hall. Motion to make a donation to Trinity Lutheran Church in the amount of \$200 in appreciation for their accommodation of our activities by Mike N5WCS, seconded by Eddie N8RUE. Motion passed.

## XI. New Business

Chuck N8ZA brought up the issue that KC8ZVA has been causing some “issues” on the WW8GM UHF repeater by selecting “Random Links” on EchoLink<sup>®</sup> that do not connect and keeping the repeater occupied for long periods of time – sometimes as long as 2-hours. There was considerable discussion about the issue of how long it is appropriate for **any** Amateur Operator to use the UHF repeater for EchoLink<sup>®</sup>. It was the general sense of those present that **no** Amateur Operator should make more than five (5) EchoLink<sup>®</sup> contacts during any 1-hour period, and that it is **not appropriate** to select “Random Links”; i.e. connection should only be made to a “**Specific** Link”. A motion was made to this effect by Chuck N8ZA (not seconded).

Motion by AI N8ARO to table this motion until Jan-07, seconded by Brad N8VI. Motion passed without discussion as required by Robert's Rules of Order. N8ARO volunteered to help draft a recommended set of procedures for using EchoLink<sup>®</sup> on the GMARC repeaters that will become **Club Policy** upon a motion made and passed by the Club in January 2007.

Ed W8EDX noted that someone was kerchunking the Repeaters on the weekend of 16-Dec-06. It was determined that the source of the signal was coming into the 2-meter Repeater. It was also determined by direction finding that the signal was **not** coming from St. Clair. Control operator need to be vigilant to *unidentified* signals coming into the GMARC Repeaters and caution Amateur Operators to identify their stations as required by FCC Rules.

## **XII. Election for Officers - 2007**

The following nominations for 2007 Officers of GMARC were made at the 21-Nov-06 meeting:

**President** – Ingo DL5AL

**Vice President** – Kurt WU8V

**Secretary** – Bobby N8CY

**Treasurer** – Joel KC8DQH

Scott W1BIC asked if there were any additional nominees for Officers. There being none, a motion was made by Brad N8VI, seconded by Jim W1IK to close nominations and elect the above candidates by acclamation. Motion passed.

The following nominations for 2007 Director-at-Large of GMARC were made at the 21-Nov-06 meeting:

**Directors-at-Large** – Mike N5WCS, Hugh KE6YRC, Rich KC8HMJ, Mark KC8WPS, Brad N8VI, Jeff N8XN

Brad N8VI noted that there are significant demands on his time for other activities and respectfully requested that his name be removed from the Ballot. W1BIC asked if there were any additional nominees for Directors-at-Large. There being none, a motion was made by Brad N8VI, seconded by Dave WD8IFL to close nominations. Motion passed. Ballots were passed out to all members present who have paid their dues (at least) thru 2006. Ballots were gathered by Vice President Joe N8OZ and delivered to an appointed tabulating committee consisting of Rich K8OX, Larry N8WJ, and Joe N8OZ. Thirty-three (33) ballots were cast and tabulated by the committee. The results of their tabulation were summarized, the tabulation was signed by the committee members, and delivered to the Secretary Bobby N8CY.

## **XIII. Break from 7:35 PM to 7:50 PM**

There was no 50/50 raffle or drawing at this meeting.

The donations towards Pizza & Pop by those present were \$52.50.

## **XIV. Announcement of Election Results by the President**

Scott W1BIC announced the results of the vote tabulation. The new Directors-at-Large for 2007 are:

Mike N5WCS  
Jeff N8XN

Scott W1BIC noted that there are numerous "appointed positions" – some included in the By-Laws, and some that are not. W1BIC encouraged members to volunteer for these positions or seek out other members to fill these positions:

"Blue Bucket Duty" – Ray KD8CXY has volunteered for 2007  
Program Director – Currently Brad N8VI  
Activities Chairperson – Open  
Newsletter Editor – Currently Dave W8RIT  
Repeater Trustee – Currently Larry N8WJ  
Field Day Chairperson – Open  
Historian – Open  
ARRL Liaison – Currently W1BIC. Dave W8RIT has previously expressed interest in this position.  
Inter-Club Liaison – Open  
ARRL Public Information Officer – Currently N8CY

#### **XV. New Members & Attendance**

Jim W1IK re-joined as a member at this meeting, and (10) members, as noted above, paid their 2007 dues at this meeting. One member, Robert W8RLV, paid his dues thru 2008.

34 Members attended, and 2 Visitors was present.

Total Collections to be delivered to the Treasurer:

Membership Dues	- \$240.00
Payment for Vests	- 120.00
Pizza Donations	- <u>52.50</u>
Total --	\$412.50

**XVI. Meeting adjourned** at 8:52 PM. Motion by Rich K8OX, seconded by Brad N8VI. Motion passed.

Respectfully submitted,

Bobby Corr N8CY,  
Secretary – GMARC  
N8CY@gmarc.org