

GMARC MEETING MINUTES 16-JAN-07 (revised)

I. Call to Order by President, Ingo DL5AL at 7:03 PM.

II. Introductions & Upgrades

No visitors were introduced.

The following upgrades were announced:

Ray KD8CXY – Amateur Extra

Joel KC8DQH – Amateur Extra

Scott W1BIC – Certificate of Completion Element 3

Ray W8PIE – Certificate of Completion Element 3

It is anticipated that the effective date for “No Code” General Status will be 23-Feb-07. After that date, an Amateur who passes Element 3 will be upgraded to General Class.

III. Minutes

Copies of the minutes from the 19-Dec-06 meeting were available at the meeting and on the GMARC Web Site. Motion to approve the December Minutes by Dave WD8IFL and seconded by Eddie N8RUE. Motion passed.

IV. Treasurer’s Report

Joel KC8DQH, our new Treasurer, reported that the GMARC Bank Account at TCF Bank has been transferred to him, and new signature cards have been signed. The January bank balance is \$979.89, and there is a pending deposit of receipts from the December meeting of \$452.50. The total bank balance as of this meeting is \$1,432.39. It was noted that the \$25.00/month electricity fee for the WW8GM repeaters has been paid thru March, 2007.

Motion to approve the Treasurer’s Report by Scott W1BIC and seconded by Mike N5WCS. Motion passed.

V. Membership Report by Bobby N8CY

We have 73 members in good standing, and 40 have also paid their 2007 dues (including those noted below). The following members paid their 2007 dues at his meeting:

N8RUE - Eddie

WD8IFL - Dave

DL5AL - Ingo

KZ8N – Bob

W8WRB – Bill

KC8WPS - Mark

VI. Nets and Newsletter (Discussion)

Dave W8RIT has resigned as the Editor of **The Transmission Line**. Kurt WU8V agreed to be the interim Newsletter Editor until a permanent Editor can be found. It will be necessary for W8RIT to provide copies of the MS Publisher **.pub** files from previous editions of the Club Newsletter in order to maintain continuity of format for the Newsletter.

Kurt WU8V noted that he does not have a spreadsheet from W8RIT that shows net check-ins for 2006.

VII. Club Liaison Report

Mike N5WCS reported that the Hazel Park Swap will be Sunday, 21-Jan-07. Talk-in on W8HP repeater 146.640 MHz.

Scott W1BIC reported that the Milford ARC has provided a free table to GMARC for their Swap on 21-Apr -07.

VIII. Tech Committee Report

Jeff N8XN was not present, and no report was given.

IX. Old Business

It was noted that Brad N8VI was the Program Director. This position is open and needs to be filled.

The subject of a proposed EchoLink[®] policy for GMARC (from the December meeting) was brought up. Al N8ARO drafted a proposed policy as he agreed to do in December. This proposed policy has been available on the Club Web Site since 22-Dec-06, and copies of this proposal were available at the meeting. There was considerable discussion about the meaning of certain section of the policy, and a few revisions were made. A final version of this policy was agreed on and a motion was made by Bob KZ8N and seconded by Brad N8VI to accept the revised policy as written. Motion passed.

X. President's Remarks

President Ingo DL5AL stated that he intends to call a Board of Directors' meeting prior to the next General Membership meeting, and notice will be given to Directors and to the Membership.

XI. New Business

Kurt WU8V made several suggestions for program at future meetings:

- 2-meter Tune-up Night – WU8V stated that he will need some equipment; e.g. deviation meter, power supply, mag-mount antenna, etc. He requested that members who can make such equipment available contact him via eMail at WU8V@gmarc.org
- CW Night – WU8V suggested that we explore some interesting aspects of CW at a meeting and perhaps have a “Left Toe CW Contest” as an entertaining interlude.

XII. Break from 8:07 PM to 8:27 PM

The 50/50 raffle winner was Mike N5WCS - \$17.00.

The donations to the Coffee Fund by those present were \$5.00.

XIII. Presentation – EchoLink[®] 101 by Bobby N8CY

Bobby N8CY made a presentation of various aspects of EchoLink[®], and its use on the WW8GM 443.075 MHz repeater. The presentation covered basic registration and set-up of the EchoLink[®] software, and a general discussion about other Voice over IP (VoIP) applications in Amateur Radio; e.g. iLink, IRLP, eQSO, and Wires-II (Yaesu). It was noted that EchoLink[®] is the most pervasive application with over 194,000 registered users in 162 of the 193 Nations on Planet Earth. EchoLink[®] was developed by Jonathan Taylor - K1RFD in 2002, and he received the Dayton HamVention Achievement Award in 2003 for his work. N8CY reviewed the EchoLink[®] command codes specific to the GMARC repeaters, and it was noted that (specific to the WW8GM repeater) all commands are preceded by a "#". The presentation also included information about various interfaces that can be used for EchoLink[®] in SysOp mode, or for operation of a transceiver in many of the Digital Modes; e.g. PSK31, PACTOR, etc. The popular interfaces reviewed were the WB2REM iLink Board, West Mountain Radio RIGblaster interface, and VA3TO Enhanced iLink Controller. Internet Links for Software, Computer / Radio Interfaces, building you own Interface, and the Dayton HamVention Award were provided.

XIV. New Members & Attendance

Six (6) members, as noted above, paid their 2007 dues at this meeting.

23 Members attended, and there were no Visitors.

Total Collections to be delivered to the Treasurer:

| | |
|-----------------|---------------|
| Membership Dues | - \$120.00 |
| 50/50 Raffle | - 17.00 |
| Pizza Donations | - <u>5.00</u> |
| Total -- | \$142.00 |

XVI. Meeting adjourned at 8:57 PM. Motion by Scott W1BIC, seconded by Wes KD8DHS. Motion passed.

Respectfully submitted,

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

Revised: 20-Feb-07