

GMARC MEETING MINUTES 18-NOV-08

I. **Call to Order** by President, Ingo AC8AW at 7:03 PM.

II. Introductions & Upgrades

There were 3 Visitors present - Tom KD8GZE, Ed KC8SBV, and Ralph W8ROI

III. Minutes

Minutes of the 21-Oct-08 meeting are available at the meeting and on the GMARC Web Site, and printed copies were available to those present.

Motion to approve the October Minutes by Dave W8RIT and seconded by Mike N5WCS. Motion passed.

Dave WD8IFL noted that he felt it was *inappropriate* to include the Club Repeaters Codes in the minutes. Motion by Dave WD8IFL and seconded by Don K7SDF to eliminate repeater codes from *any* meeting minutes. Motion passed. The repeater codes were *retrieved* from Visitors present who received copies of the minutes.

IV. Treasurer's Report

Joel WU8Y, our Treasurer, was not present. The current bank balance in our checking account is \$3,445.08 as of 18-Nov-08. The Antenna Fund has \$2,391.45, and operating funds are \$1,053.63.

No motion was made regarding financial data presented.

V. Membership Report by Bobby N8CY

We have 38 members in good standing, who have paid their 2008 dues, and 5 members who have paid their 2009 dues. Members are reminded to pay their 2009 dues. The following members paid their 2009 dues at this meeting:

| | | | |
|------|-------|-------|-------|
| Mike | N5WCS | Al | N8ARO |
| Ingo | AC8AW | Scott | W1BIC |

Scott also paid \$2 due to the club for his ARRL membership renewal.

VI. Nominations for Offices & Directors – 2009 Year

The following members were nominated for Officers and./or Directors at large for 2009:

| Office | Name | Nominated By |
|--------------------|-------------|--------------|
| President | Bob KZ8N | Ingo AC8AW |
| Vice President | Kurt WU8V | Bobby N8CY |
| Secretary | Bobby N8CY | Mike N5WCS |
| Treasurer | Scott W1BIC | Kurt WU8V |
| Directors-at-Large | Jeff N8XN | Kurt WU8V |
| | Wes KD8DHS | Bobby N8CY |
| | Mike N5WCS | Dave W8RIT |
| | Dave W8RIT | Dina N8YJI |
| | Bill W8WRB | Kurt WU8V |

It was noted that Ingo AC8AW (our Past President) will not be able to serve during 2009, and therefore we will elect **three (3)** Directors-at-Large in December.

VII. New Business

Dave W8RIT and Kurt WU8V noted that they have been experimenting with digital modes in conjunction with Ray W8PIE. They asked for suggestions for time / location for an *exploratory net* for digital modes.

Motions by Dave WD8IFL and seconded by Mike N5WCS to make Kurt WU8V the Net Manager for a digital net and allow him to establish date / time / band / NCOs / Software, etc. to be used.

Dave W8RIT suggested that (for PSK) use 3580 KHz

Kurt WU8V asked for a show of hands for those *interested* in a digital net. There were 6-7 members present indicating interest. He then asked for persons who have equipment and are **ready today** to participate. Three (3) persons indicated they have equipment.

Bob KA8VSI suggested that a presentation be made at a future meeting about equipment required and assist potential participants in setting-up their station.

Don K7SDF asked – What band? The discussion was ended with a suggestion that anyone interested contact Kurt at WU8V@gmarc.org.

Our visitor Ralph W8ROI from L'Anse Creuse noted that LCARC has a PacketNet on 144.930 MHz on Tuesdays at 8:00 PM – DETQFO.

The motion was **withdrawn** by Dave WD8IFL

It was noted the NCOs for the Monday night InfoNet are not living-up to their responsibilities on their coverage nights. A request was made for any members willing to serve as NCOs – Don K7SDF indicated potential interest.

A question was asked if it is possible to “run the net” from EchoLink. Scott W1BIC stated that **it is**, and that he had run the most recent net from EchoLink.

There is a **new** preamble for the Monday night InfoNet. Dave W8RIT will forward the new preamble to the Webmaster Bobby N8CY for placement at www.gmarc.org. It was agreed that the Net Manager Dave W8RIT will contact the responsible NCO on Sunday *before* the Monday InfoNet and resolve **who** will actually host the net the following Monday.

VIII. Break from 7:47 PM to 8:13 PM

The 50/50 raffle winner was Ralph W8ROI \$22.00, who donated \$12.00 of his winnings to the Antenna Fund. (\$22 to Club). There were (3) consolation winners drawn – each of which could “pick a prize” from the **blue boards** that were left over from the Trunk Swap. The winners were: Ingo AC8AW, Rich KC8HMJ, and Al N8ARO.

IX. Relocation of 2-Meter Repeater to Lake Orion, MI

Scott W1BIC renewed the discussion about relocation of the 2-Meter Repeater to the GM Warranty Return Center in Lake Orion, Michigan. The motion made by Bobby N8CY at the 21-Oct-08 meeting to:

- 1) Relocate 2-Meter Repeater to GM Warranty Return Center in Lake Orion, MI and purchase suitable new antenna with tripod mount.
- 2) Purchase “Link” radios & new yagi antennas to link 2-Meter & 440-MHz Repeaters
- 3) Make application with MiARC to re-coordinate 2-meter Repeater in new location.

was automatically **tabled** in October and was to be voted-on at this meeting.

Discussion:

- 1) Dave WD8IFL requested that someone *convince* him that Lake Orion is the “right location” for the new site. In the course of discussion, he stated that he had been convinced.
- 2) There was concern expressed that the Club **not** spend any money until we receive new coordination from MiARC. Scott W1BIC stated that preliminary approval would be obtained before *any money* is spent. It was also noted that his motion does not authorize the spending of money – that will take a separate motion.
- 3) Scott W1BIC noted that the location at the GM Warranty Return Center is “on the ridge” that runs East-West just North of the Palace, and this location will allow our 2-meter repeater to “see” the Northern side of this ridge (which is *not possible*) from locations South of this ridge.
- 4) Bob KA8VSI stated that L’Anse Creuse move antennas to Sterling Heights, and there were *significant costs* associated with putting their antennas on another company’s tower *plus* ongoing maintenance costs each time that tower had to be accessed.
- 5) Dave W8RIT asked how long MiARC will require to approve coordination? Scott W1BIC stated that it should be less than 3 months.

Bobby N8CY **called for the question**, and the motion was approved unanimously.

X. President’s Comments

It was noted that our Liability Insurance [required for our antennas on the RenCen] premium *has not* been paid. Our Treasurer Joel WU8Y has not returned phone calls placed to him by Scott W1BIC.

The payment of \$200 to Trinity Lutheran Church authorized at the October, 2008 meeting *has not* been made.

Scott W1BIC will be the **new** Affiliated Club Coordinator (ACC) of the ARRL Michigan Section – replacing Dan KB6BU, who is the *presumed* new Vice-Director of the ARRL Great Lakes Division.

Scott W1BIC explained the process for renewal of ARRL dues “thru the Club”. There is a .PDF file on the ARRL Web Site [which W1BIC will post on the Yahoo! Groups site] that contains a form for this purpose. A member should fill-out this form and FAX it to ARRL with a credit card number for a \$37 payment. It is *then* the member’s responsibility to pay the *discount* of \$2 to the Club. It was also noted that the Club gets a \$15 return for **new members**.

Scott W1BIC acknowledged **two great years** for the Club under Ingo’s leadership, and he received a *resounding applause* from the group present.

XI. New Members & Attendance

15 Members attended, and there were 3 Visitors.

Total Collections to be delivered to the Treasurer:

| | | | |
|-----------------|------|--------------|-----------------------|
| Coffee Fund | - \$ | 7.00 | |
| 50/50 Raffle | - | 22.00 | |
| Antenna Fund | - | 12.00 | W8ROI (Donated 50/50) |
| ARRL Membership | - | 2.00 | W1BIC |
| Membership Dues | - | <u>80.00</u> | |
| Total -- | \$ | 123.00 | |

